

Hafa Adai!

Motorcycle instruction course is given the green light. » **PAGE 6**

EPA awards over \$9M to the CNMI. » **PAGE 7**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXV, Issue No. 209

www.saipantribune.com

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 21, 2015

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75¢

'END POVERTY IN THE MARIANAS'

Special commission created to root out poverty



Acting governor Ralph Torres delivers a speech yesterday at the "State Innovation Model" conference at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

DENNIS B. CHAN

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting governor Ralph Torres signed Monday an executive order to create a "special commission on economic opportunity" in the CNMI that will target the widespread problem of poverty in the Commonwealth.

This unprecedented policy initiative comes in the wake of Typhoon Soudelor, which not only left the CNMI in a state of disaster but also unveiled persistent hardships that saw hundreds in shelters and in need of immediate food and water assistance.

Poverty affects all, the directive says. More than 8,000 Commonwealth house-

See **POVERTY** on **Page 4**

Pete A: Mariana Resort land must revert back to the DPL

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands is constitutionally prohibited from entering into a new lease with Kan Pacific, Ltd. for its Mariana Resort and Spa property, according to DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio in a letter to Kan Pacific president Yoshihiro Kitami on Monday, emphasizing that Kan Pacific's 40-year lease must expire and that no resolution passed by the Legislature could bind DPL to negotiate a renewal of the lease.



Tenorio

DPL announced in June this year its decision to seek competitive bids for the Mariana Resort property, despite hotel officials alleging they had received assurances from DPL for a new lease. In July, Rep. Vinson Sablan (Ind-Saipan) filed House Resolution 19-29, "encouraging the administration and the secretary of Public Lands to negotiate a new lease [for] Kan Pacific

See **PETE** on **Page 4**

Chinese-Korean scuba diving instructor missing



Mei Hua Zhao

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Chinese-Korean woman was reported missing and her vehicle was found abandoned near McDonald's in Garapan yesterday afternoon.

A concerned citizen told *Saipan Tribune* last night that his friend, Mei Hua Zhao, about 25 to 30 years old, stopped answering her cell phone after 10pm on Monday.

The friend, who asked not to be identified, disclosed that Zhao, a scuba diving instructor, was supposed to pick up some customers yesterday morning but she did not show up.

He said another friend found Zhao's white Toyota Tacoma parked near Mc-

See **MISSING** on **Page 4**

SLOWLY GETTING THERE

Linemen brought in from Colorado to aid recovery efforts after Typhoon Soudelor repair a power pole along the road heading down to Lower Base.

DENNIS B. CHAN



INSIDE

BUSINESS

Amazon sues more than 1,000 people to stop phony product reviews.

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NATION

The Texas teen arrested after a clock he made was mistaken for a bomb visits the White House.

» **PAGE 14**

ASIA

Typhoon Koppu leaves 11 dead and thousands displaced in the Philippines.

» **PAGE 15**



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TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

A place of history in Seoul: Changdeokgung Palace

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

SEOUL, South Korea—If you are looking for sights in Seoul that are representative of the Korean tradition and culture, there is nothing higher up the list than the Changdeokgung Palace in the heart of this bustling metropolis.

The palace, considered one of the most historically significant attractions that represent

the beauty of Korea, was built in 1405, the fifth year of the 3rd King Taejong's reign.

No wonder some 200 visitors come and see the place everyday. It is frequented not only by tourists from foreign countries but by many Koreans themselves.

The complex comes to life even more when visitors to the complex come garbed in the colorful Korean national costume called the *hanbok*.

They do it for photo shoots for weddings or for just plain fun, reliving the age of Korean dynasty and as an ode to their roots.

According to the Korea Tourism Organization, the best time to visit the palace is in autumn, when the leaves start to fall. During winter, the palace's roof is powdered with white snow.

The palace grounds has a public palace area, a royal



The Changdeokgung Palace, as well as the entire complex with its gardens, is on the 1997 list of UNESCO World Cultural Heritage due to its outstanding architecture and design.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing for the proposed Saipan Comfort Homes project under permit application No.SMS-2015-X-066. The permit application was submitted by the Saipan Comfort Homes, LLC to construct forty (40) two-bedroom residential units on a subleased property situated in As Terlaje, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The public hearing is scheduled for November 05, 2015, at 5:00PM at the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) office, 2nd floor conference room.

Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM Office, Suite 305, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mail to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, Caller Box 10007 or by fax at 664-8315. The project file is open for review and comment during regular business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M., Monday thru Friday. All written and oral comments received by DCRM will be included as part of the permit application record and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed project.

Please contact the DCRM at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Saipan Comfort Homes project.

/s/ Frances A. Castro
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

SAIPAN HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Saipan

NOTICE OF REGULAR SHEFA BOARD MEETING

In accordance with 1 CMC § 9901 et seq., as amended, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance (SHEFA) Board hereby gives notice the Regular Monthly Board Meeting is set for Thursday, October 22, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Saipan Mayor's Office Conference Room, Ladera Center, Beach Road, Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. Preliminary
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes from September 17, 2015
- II. Public Comments
 1. Mrs. Agnes McPhetres, NMTI CEO
- III. Reports
 1. Administrator
 2. Chair
 3. Board Committees
 - a. Committee on Award (COA)
 - b. Committee on Policy and Procedures (CPP)
 - c. Committee on Program and Development (CPD)
 - d. Committee on Appeal (CAPP)
 - e. Committee on Fiscal, Legislative and Community Affairs (CFLCA)
- IV. Old Business
 1. Revisit Priority Fields
- V. New Business
 1. Update on Fall 2015 semester application status
 2. Propose to increase scholarship amount
- VI. Executive Session
 1. Appeals/Deferments/Forbearance
- VII. Miscellaneous
 1. Resignation of Board member Jose C. Mafnas
- VIII. Next Board Meeting
- IX. Adjournment

family residence building, and the rear garden—which boasts a gigantic tree that is over 300 years old, a small pond, and a pavilion.

Despite the complex buildings' looking the same, there are delicate differences with the intricate designs especially the paintings that decorate its posts, walls, and roofs. In ancient times, each building also had their own rules for the occupants and servers to follow.

All the palace buildings were actually destroyed by fire during the Japanese invasion of 1592. Changdeokgung was

restored in 1610 and served as the main palace for 270 years including the dynasty's last king, Sunjong.

It is referred to as the "east palace" together with the Changgyeonggung Palace, since it was to the east of the main palace, Gyeongbokgung which is in the west. Changdeokgung is secondary only to the main palace.

Changdeokgung is laid out in harmony with the area's topography and has a dissymmetric beauty unique to Korea. It is also in perfect harmony with its natural background as

it was built with the mountain backdrop in sight.

The palace, as well as the entire complex with its gardens, is on the 1997 list of UNESCO World Cultural Heritage due to its outstanding architecture and design.

Despite a fire that destroyed the queen's residence called Daejojeon, it is still said to be relatively well preserved. It is also recognized as a representative of Korean palace architecture.

A tour at the Changdeokgung costs 3,000 won or roughly \$3 for adults, and 1,500 won for kids or about \$1.50.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
LAW REVISION COMMISSION
JUDICIAL BRANCH
House of Justice • Guma Hustisia • Iimwal Aweewe
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Tel: (670) 236-9820 • Fax: (670) 236-9897 • E-Mail: cnmilaw@justice.gov.mp
http://www.cnmilaw.org

PUBLIC NOTICE

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, October 26, 2015, 12:00 p.m.
Commonwealth Law Revision Commission Office
House of Justice/Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe
Susupe, Saipan

Agenda

1. Preliminary Matters
 - a. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - b. Introductions
 - c. Meeting Notice (Compliance with Open Government Act, 1 CMC § 9901 et seq.)
 - d. Final Approval of April 23, 2015 Meeting Minutes
2. Executive Director's Report
 - a. New Staff Attorney
 - b. 2015 Products
 - c. Website
 - d. FY 2016 Budget
 - e. Sale Items
3. Old Business
 - a. Commonwealth Code Books
 - b. Driver's Handbook
 - c. Driver's Handbook Act
 - d. Professional Development
4. New Business
 - a. Document Certification Requests
5. Other Business
6. Tentative Date for Next Meeting and Adjournment

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1856/57
Email: commonwealthcasinocommission@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled a meeting on Thursday, October 29, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's Office (Conference Room) at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

- I. PRELIMINARIES:
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Adoption of Agenda
 - D. Adoption of Minutes: September 11, 2015
- II. REPORTS:
 - A. Report by the Chairman
 - B. Report by the Executive Director
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- IV. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. GLI Final Audit & Certification of Casino Gaming Equipment & GLI Training
 - B. Status of House Bill #19-95
 - C. Review and Adoption of Casino Minimum Internal Control Standards (A-H)
- V. NEW BUSINESS:
 - A. Adoption of Casino Key Employee Application Form
 - B. Adoption of Casino Junket Operator License Form
 - C. Adoption of Commission Confidentiality Agreement and Policy
 - D. Approval of Casino Vendor Licenses
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- VII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day if necessary.

Juan M. Sablan
Chairman

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1856/57
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled a meeting on Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's Office (Conference Room) at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

- I. PRELIMINARIES:
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Adoption of Agenda
 - D. Adoption of Minutes: September 25, 2015
- II. REPORTS:
 - A. Report by the Chairman
 - B. Report by the Executive Director
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- IV. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. Review and Adoption of Casino Minimum Internal Control Standards (I-V)
 - B. UNLV IGI Training Seminar
- V. NEW BUSINESS:
 - A. Adoption of Permanent Casino Commission Rules and Regulations
 - B. Casino Commission FY2016 Budget
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- VII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day if necessary.

Juan M. Sablan
Chairman

Lawyer sues corporate owner and officials of COP

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Vincent DLG. Torres, a minority shareholder of Suwaso Corp. that owns Coral Ocean Golf Resort, is suing Suwaso's majority shareholder, E-Land World Ltd., and some of its current and former directors and employees for allegedly failing to provide a proper accounting, embarking upon a scheme to misappropriate business opportunities and funds, and negotiating loans over \$5 million without proper authorization.

Torres is suing E-Land World Ltd., E-Land's Micronesian Resort Inc., Suwaso Corp., Jong-Ho Roh, Seong Min Kang, Il Kyu Kim, Tae Ho Kim, Steve Hwang, Dennis Seo, and three unnamed co-defendants, for fraudulent

misrepresentation, failure to provide accounting, fraudulent concealment and usurpation of corporate opportunity, breach of fiduciary duty, and assisting a breach of fiduciary duty.

E-Land, a large Korean corporation, is the sole shareholder of Micronesian Resort Inc., which in turn is the majority shareholder of Suwaso Corp. Suwaso owns Coral Ocean Point. Roh is an E-Land employee and a former director of MRI and Suwaso.

Kang, Il Kim, and Tae Kim are former directors and officers of MRI and Suwaso. Hwang is an agent of E-Land who allegedly provided legal advice to all the defendants. Seo is an employee of E-Land allegedly delegated to manage and act on behalf of Suwaso.

As of press time, there was no

comment from E-Land.

Torres, through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, is demanding unspecified damages, court costs, and attorney's fees. He demanded a jury trial.

Torres also asked the Superior Court to compel Suwaso to produce records and an accounting pursuant to the Suwaso bylaws and CNMI law.

According to the complaint filed Monday, Torres became a minority shareholder of Suwaso in 2011 after convincing a family friend, Yusuke Fumoto, to invest in COP and partner with him. Fumoto bought the majority of Suwaso shares while Torres acquired the minority shares.

At the time, the 25-year government land permit for COP's land was due to expire and the government was not going to renew it, Fitzgerald said.

After securing an extension of the "permit" for the land, Fumoto and Torres went to work to comply with the terms of the "permit's" requirement and submitted them to the government.

The government then claimed that the project could not proceed because COP owed back taxes, Fitzgerald said. He said these actions by CNMI government discouraged Fumoto and caused him to lose confidence in the project and sell his shares in Suwaso to E-Land.

Fumoto also allegedly agreed that Torres could remain as a minority shareholder of Suwaso. On Aug. 22, 2012, MRI, E-Land's designee, became the majority owner of Suwaso stock, with Torres holding 15 percent.

Fitzgerald said that in order to induce Torres to persuade Fumoto to sell to E-Land, E-Land

made specific promises to Torres: that Torres would be a valued member of E-Land Group, that he would be fully informed of all Suwaso's plans and actions, and that he would remain a director of Suwaso. Fitzgerald said E-Land has reneged on each of these promises.

The lawyer said the defendants denied Torres access to the books and records of Suwaso, failed to provide a proper accounting, failed to provide a yearly report as required by the bylaws, usurped corporate opportunities that rightfully belong to Suwaso, and negotiated loans of more than \$5 million without proper authorization.

In 2014, Fitzgerald said, after taking control of Suwaso, E-Land sold special VIP memberships in Korea that allowed members special discounted rates at COP, without giving any

notice to Torres or the shareholders of Suwaso and without any compensation to Suwaso. The membership, Fitzgerald said, entitled them to receive discounts of from 50 percent to 100 percent on rooms, golf, and restaurants at COP.

The membership fee was paid in Korea and was not reported as income to Suwaso, but rather, went to benefit E-Land, the lawyer added.

He said Torres has made repeated requests to inspect the books and records of Suwaso, but Suwaso failed and refused to provide full access to all of the records that he is entitled to inspect, and has intentionally concealed records from him.

Public invited to CNMI drug court presentation

CNMI Bar Association president Jennifer Dockter encouraged the public yesterday to learn more from retired Utah judge Steven Hansen and Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman about the creation of a drug court in the CNMI.

Dockter said the Bar Association welcomes members of the public to attend Hansen's and Wiseman's presentation at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's Restaurant tomorrow, Thursday, at 11:45am.

Dockter said Wiseman and Hansen will be discussing the implementation of a drug court in the CNMI.

The lawyer said Wiseman has spearheaded the effort to implement this "highly important, problem solving court" in the CNMI.

She said Hansen, who has successfully implemented two drugs courts in the U.S. mainland, traveled to Saipan from Provo, Utah, to help in this critical process.

Hansen will be on the island for six months and will be working with Wiseman on this project.

There are now over 3,000 drug courts in the United States. A drug court is reportedly considered one of the most effective ways in the criminal justice system of dealing with drug abuse and criminal behavior.

House Speaker Joseph P. DeLeon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) introduced the bill that would establish a drug court in the CNMI. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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USPS installs new Saipan postmaster

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Newly installed Saipan postmaster Christopher A. Warren said yesterday that his top priority is basically to maintain the level of service and standards that they now have but with more consistency in the timely delivery of mails and packages to the islands.

"Maintain what we have now and build on it for the future," he said in an interview after yesterday's installation ceremony at the Saipan Post Office.

U.S. Postal Service Director of Asia-Pacific Relations Leo Tudela administered the postmaster's oath of office to Warren during the ceremony attended by CNMI government officials, businessmen, and some community members.

USPS Post Office operations manager Felix E. Bagoyo welcomed guests, while USPS district manager Greg D. Wolny gave a brief congratulatory message.

Warren, a native of Ohio, replaced James Constable, who was transferred to a position as postmaster of the Pahoia Post



Christopher A. Warren takes the oath of office as Saipan postmaster before U.S. Postal Service Asia-Pacific Relations director Leo Tudela during yesterday's installation program at Saipan Post Office.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Office in Hawaii.

Prior to his appointment as Saipan postmaster, Warren served as a Customer Services supervisor in Guam and officer-in-charge of the Guam Main Postal Facility. He began his postal career 26 years ago as a rural mail carrier at the Piqua (OH) Post Office.

In his remarks, Warren briefly narrated how his postal career began and the different positions he has held over the years. He gave thanks to the current seven staff members of the Saipan Post Office, who continued to work even after Typhoon

Soudelor devastated the island.

Warren urged people who have concerns to communicate with him, saying it's all about working together with govern-

ment officials, businessmen, and members of the community.

As the island has just been through two typhoons and an Internet outage, Warren said he is looking at just getting back to normal at the postal office.

He disclosed that the relief supplies really impacted the mails coming in through Honolulu.

"Generators and chainsaws, very large sizes, impacted the timeliness of the mails coming in," Warren said.

With the Saipan casino industry revving up, Warren said more workers will be coming to the island and they are going to access all postal deliveries, P.O. boxes, and will be ordering supplies for themselves such as clothing, electronics, and other items.

3 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged the North Laulau Beach, South Laulau Beach, and Hidden Beach on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these

locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. **(DEQ)**

POVERTY

From Page 1

holds in 2013 made less than the annual salary of a full-time employee on minimum wage, the directive notes, and low-income households are especially vulnerable to displacements and are least able to access safe housing after natural disasters.

According to the directive, the special commission will advise Gov. Eloy S. Inos and will be chaired by the lieutenant governor's office. It will "map the causes and systemic nature of poverty in the CNMI" and review existing laws, regulations, and policies of government agencies to make sure they concur with poverty reduction goals.

The special commission will develop and share a comprehensive list of community services available to low-income residents. It will push initiatives and programs that support "self-sufficiency" and engage the community with shared poverty reduction goals, the directive notes.

The commission will develop a strategic plan to guide both local and federal policy and legislation in alleviating poverty. It will also seek funding and resources needed for the commission's goals.

Vicious cycle

Torres, who has been visiting homes as part of recovery efforts following the devastation of Typhoon Soudelor, recently dropped by a home in Kagman whose roof had been torn away by the storm. An older woman greeted him by attempting to stand up from her mattress on

the only leg she had.

"She a was diabetic," Torres said in a speech yesterday at a health conference where he unveiled plans for the new commission, "whose disease took something from her that we will never truly replace."

"There is a resilience in our people that is unmatched," Torres said. "We will always use what we can to rise, but now more than ever, we need a stronger foundation of support to hold us up."

"The conversations and experience from around our island led to many discussions about where we didn't do our utmost for the many families making do with what they have to survive."

"There is no denying that a systemic problem exists in our islands," Torres said. "Fifty-one percent of the individuals living in the CNMI are beneath the poverty line. More than 1,800 families make less than \$5,000 a year. Forty-five percent of our medical referral patients need immediate health care directly, caused by the damaging effects of non-communicable diseases," which he said claims seven out of 10 people who pass away in the CNMI.

"There exists a vicious cycle of poverty that trap so many families in our islands and this cycle stems from three fundamental potholes toward prosperity—jobs, opportunity, and health," he said.

"Any way you look at the situation, a failure in one of these three continually impacts the others in a spiral toward greater poverty, less labor participation, fewer opportunities for mobility, and poorer health outcomes."

He said the plan they are working on would require bold

action and political courage in all levels of government.

He said the conversations have led to the formation of the commission to address the root cause of the problems in the community "...to tackle the root causes of poverty and help...the many families who quietly struggle to make do with what little they have day in and day out."

"We have numerous programs and services in our government dedicated to serve those in the most need. But we need to do our part to ensure that a family receiving food stamps is strengthened by this program to one day drive past the food stamp office to a store where they buy groceries they need on a well-earned paycheck."

"The goal of this commission is not to advocate for the broad and all-encompassing redistribution of wealth, nor is it an added layer of bureaucracy shrouding our goals in needless red tape," Torres said. "The commission will be tasked with finally coordinating the many services we provide to low-income households in the CNMI so that we are providing our residents the tools to build a better life for themselves, instead of giving them programs to live off of."

Support

"I think it's an exciting first step," said Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) when sought for comment. "We have a lot of social issues and the biggest of that being poverty."

"One of the socially determinative factors of health is poverty," Esther Muña, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer, told *Saipan*

Tribune yesterday. "We need to take care of that."

"People don't have to be suffering, trying to rebuild their houses but also not taking care of their health because they can't afford it," she said. "If you look at the hierarchy of needs, health is probably at the bottom, but that's really one of our needs. [We need] to have the commission identify how we can help the people who are living in poverty, and how do we help them get back on their feet so they can improve their health."

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas looks forward to working with the administration on the new commission. "I am very pleased that that is the initiative. I fully support it. I think poverty is an issue that we must deal with, and it was most evident after Soudelor happened. There were many people without homes, many people without any ability to afford healthcare."

According to the directive, the commission will be made up of members from the public, including those who are qualified for food stamps, housing vouchers, or similar. It will be made up of private agencies and programs, the business community, lawmakers, the Office of the Attorney General, the Northern Marianas College, and executive branch departments like the Department of Commerce, the Commonwealth Development Authority, Northern Marianas Housing Corp., and CNMI Medicaid Office, among others.

The directive aims to create a "multifaceted network of partnerships, coalitions, nonprofit organizations, and governmental agencies...to end poverty in our islands."

"That's something we wish to be prepared for. And that's going to have an impact as more people are coming to the island," he said.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), who was among the guests at the ceremony, said he is happy that the CNMI continues to have great working relationship with the U.S. Post Office.

Sablan said this year, Congress appropriated \$70 million to the post office and that there's a total revenue of \$68 billion.

"But we work with them.

Once in a while we have constituents come in and have concerns," he said.

Sablan said he is happy with Warren and recognized the hard work of the seven staff members.

"I understand he [Warren] is much more customer oriented. He would come out and meet customers who have issues with the mail," Sablan said.

Also at the ceremony was Jean Sablan, daughter of the late Segundo Sablan, who was appointed the first Saipan postmaster on July 1, 1951.

PETE

From Page 1

Saipan, Ltd."

When contacted last night, Mariana Resort general manager Gloria Cavanagh declined to comment, saying the matter is now with their legal counsel.

Saipan Tribune also tried to obtain comments from Sablan but he said he will issue his official comments today.

In his letter Monday, Tenorio chose to share his thoughts on the legislative resolution with Kitami, noting "several misconceptions in the resolution." Tenorio did not elaborate.

Tenorio said DPL is prohibited from granting a "new lease to Kan Pacific" until such time that the public land and improvements that Kan Pacific is currently leasing automatically reverts to the government upon the natural expiration of the current lease of 25 years with its 15-year extension for a total of 40 years.

The Kan Pacific lease expires on April 30, 2018.

Tenorio said 40 years is the "maximum leasehold period allowed by the CNMI Constitution."

"No additional extension or new lease is specifically authorized by the Constitution," Tenorio said. "And a resolution by our Legislature supporting or 'encouraging' the administration and DPL" for a new lease "could not bind DPL" to enter into one.

Tenorio said the Constitution mandates that after the expiration of 40 years of a public land lease like Kan Pacific's, all public land, together with all improvements "reverts to the government."

At such time, Tenorio explained, DPL has two options:

one, to negotiate a second lease with the lessee who previously owned the land, or two, put the land out to bid "to assure others the opportunity to submit proposals."

"...in the interest of transparency, an RFP is in order," Tenorio said.

"I hope that you fully appreciate the requirement of the CNMI Constitution with the respect of leasing of public lands," he added.

Tenorio pointed out it is the responsibility of every public land lessee to "fully understand our CNMI Constitution."

"Unless the Constitution is amended, DPL has no option but to strictly adhere to its constitutional mandate," he said.

Kan Pacific's Mariana Resort has been on island for 37 years and is seeking a new lease with a commitment of some \$30 million in added investment. The hotel is seen as an important link to a dwindling Japanese tourism market in the CNMI, and has recently been pumping out full page ads and radio advertisements on its commitment to the community in light of the DPL decision.

Last month, Mariana Resort general manager Gloria Cavanagh said there was concern as to whether the fate of their establishment would be subject to a process that is "improper and unfair." Cavanagh was responding to reports of "secret" meetings between DPL, lawmakers, and with Best Sunshine Ltd., a potential bidder of the Marpi property that is seeking to complete a billion-dollar project to build an integrated casino resort on Saipan.

DPL's decision is a policy call by the administration of Gov. Eloy S. Inos to bid out existing public land leases.

MISSING

From Page 1

Donald's in Garapan yesterday afternoon. He said he immediately called the police at 3:30pm.

The pickup truck was locked, he said. Police took the vehicle for investigation.

"We are worried about her," he said, adding that he searched many places on the island yesterday but could not find her.

The concerned citizen posted Zhao's photo on the Saipan Buy/Sell/Swap Facebook ac-

count, hoping to get information from the public.

He said Zhao's husband was already notified and that he came to Saipan from Tinian yesterday.

The couple stays in Gualo Rai.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Jaime Deleon Guerrero confirmed last night that there is indeed a missing woman and that they are still investigating the case.

Deleon Guerrero also confirmed that the woman's vehicle had been recovered.

He said more details will be released today.

Muña backs bill regulating healthcare costs in CNMI

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The top official of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. supports a bill that proposes to regulate healthcare costs in the CNMI and aims to assess the total cost of healthcare in the CNMI by establishing a claims data warehouse.

CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña said the mechanism provided by Senate Bill 19-61 is long overdue.

"I am in support of this bill. A mechanism for the tracking and analysis of healthcare utilization and costs in the CNMI is long overdue, and improved local capacity for holding insurance companies accountable for how premium dollars are spent could not come at a better time for our community," Muña said.

"The aggregated health data in the Claims and Clinical Data Warehouse called for in this bill will illuminate, for the first time, CNMI-wide patterns of health care costs and utilization and provide CNMI residents with transparent information on the cost of their health, the health status of our population, and allow for further analysis into healthcare quality improvement," Muña said.

She said this will be the first time that light will be shed on the CNMI-wide pattern of healthcare use.

That data will be essential for decision makers, she added. "I am committed to the belief that such data is essential to helping policymakers, providers, payers, and patients make informed choices about health care and coverage," she said.

Muña also noted that within the short time that the CNMI fell under the federal regulatory umbrella of the Affordable Care Act, CNMI residents were rebated over \$490,000 from local insurance carriers due to insufficient medical loss ratios. This was between 2011 and 2013.

"Requiring insurance companies to spend at least 80 cents of every premium dollar on medical claims, or rebate the difference to beneficiaries, is an important consumer safeguard that the CNMI can and should continue to regulate locally," Muña said.

According to her, the lone act of collecting this data does not improve health care quality or reduce costs but the data aggregation called for in SB 19-61 will provide "unprecedented insight" on the status of health care in the CNMI.

This is because the bill aims to "improve accountability for how health insurance premiums are spent by requiring health insurance insurers and health care providers to submit reports on Medical Loss Ratio and claims and clinical data to the CNMI Insurance Commissioner."

"CHCC realizes that in order to reach the full potential of the CNMI Claims and Clinical Data Warehouse, reports and analyses based on the data convey the true value of the mechanism," Muña said.

The bill, introduced by Sen. Sixto Igisomar, (R-Saipan) would direct CHCC to establish this claims and clinical data warehouse and would establish a definition for plan year and calendar year, require insurers and providers to provide claims and clinical data, and to conduct and report studies on the cost and quality of care, population health conditions, healthcare disparities, and other health matters.

"CHCC is committed to fulfilling the responsibilities called for in this bill and looks forward to its passage into law," Muña said.

DOL fines grocery store \$2K for non-submission of documents

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Department of Labor has fined Double Lee Corp. after it failed to comply with the department's request for documents.

A \$2,000 fine was ordered by DOL's Administrative Hearing Office through an order signed by hearing officer Jerry Cody.

The Hearing Office sanctioned Double Lee Corp. after it twice failed to submit requested documents.

In April, DOL's Enforcement Section requested Double Lee Corp., which does business as Green Consume Market in As Lito, to produce eight types of documents within 10 business days. These are current total workforce listing, copies of employer's quarterly withholding tax reports for four quarters, payroll records for four quarters, a letter of compliance issued by the Division of Revenue and Taxation, a business license, an annual corporate report, and a sketched map to the business location.

The corporation failed to provide these documents. Two months later, in June, investigators from the Enforcement Section made a second request to Double Lee Corp. Once again, it failed to submit the documents.

Due to this, a hearing was scheduled for Aug. 4 but this had to be rescheduled following Typhoon Soudelor.

The fine requested by the Enforcement Section was \$4,000 but was levied by the hearing officer under Chapter 2 of the Commonwealth Employment Act of 2007.

Double Lee Corp. was sanctioned \$2,000, half of which must be paid no less than 30 days after the issuance of the order and the other half shall be suspended for two years and then extinguished if the employer commits no further violation.

According to the order, "If the respondent fails to comply with the terms of this order it shall be subject to a reinstatement filed by the Enforcement Section."

RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind it's **RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS** customers that current billing of accounts are due on or before **Wednesday, October 21, 2015**. Payments not received by close of business on **October 21** will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00PM on that day.

To prevent temporary suspension, customers are hereby advised to kindly pay their bills on or before **Wednesday, October 21**. Disputed billings must be brought to IT&E's attention in person or in writing by **Wednesday, October 21**. Customers must pay any current amount due, to avoid disconnection.

If you have questions regarding billing or services please call Customer Service at 682-4ITE (4483) or visit our Customer Service or Business Sales Center – Middle Rd., Gulao Rai office.



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Motorcycle instruction course is given the green light

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has signed a law to require motorcycle vendors to provide helmets to riders of rented vehicles in the Commonwealth, and to allow the Department of Public Safety to offer motorcycle instruction courses.

House Bill 19-14, HD1—now Public Law 19-12—requires that vendors provide U.S. Department of Transportation-certified helmets to operators renting or who have leased motorcycles, scooters, or mopeds in the CNMI.

The new law also allows the Department of Public Safety to establish a CNMI motorcycle safety education program that

will include training courses for novice and experienced riders. The program will also issue a certificate of completion to persons who meet the program requirements that must meet or exceed those established by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

No person will drive or operate a motorcycle on a public street or highway in the CNMI without first securing a regular operator's license with "motorcycle endorsement" on it, the bill states.

Before a motorcycle en-

dorsement can be issued, a person who is 16 years or older must attend, enroll, and pass the Motorcycle Safety Education Program, according to the bill.

"Tourists have been injured or even killed as result of motorcycle accidents in the Commonwealth," the bill states. "There are currently no motorcycle safety courses offered in the Commonwealth."

"As a result, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles of [DPS] does not provide for endorsements in driver's licenses issued to motorcycle operators. When

traveling abroad, they are often not allowed to operate a motorcycle because of the absence of a motorcycle endorsement on the [CNMI driver's license]."

"The Department of Public Safety can and have certified instructors to conduct such courses but lack the legal authority to require motorcycle operators to undergo such classes prior to receiving a motorcycle endorsement on their driver's licenses. The Legislature finds that the Commonwealth has been unable to access federal grant funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in large part because of the absence of a law that requires motorcycle operators to un-

dergo a motorcycle operator's safety course."

Rep. Roman C. Benavente

introduced the bill with Reps. Lorenzo Guerrero, Edwin Propst, and Ramon Tebuteb.

» New law requires vendors to provide helmets to riders

C.A.R.E. seeks volunteers; offers free trainings

The Commonwealth Advocates for Recovery Efforts, more popularly known as CNMI C.A.R.E., is looking for motivated individuals willing to volunteer their time and effort.

Every weekend C.A.R.E., partnering with other organizations on Saipan, is going to—weather permitting—start working on a few heavily damaged neighborhoods, helping to remove debris, secure, and stabilize homes.

If you are interested in being a volunteer or you need help as a result of Typhoon Soudelor please go to www.cnmicare.com and sign up for assistance or to be a volunteer!

In addition to these work parties, CARE is hosting two types of training for those interested in leading volunteers.

One is a team leader training every Wednesday from 5:30pm to 7pm at the TSL Plaza in Garapan on the third floor. This team leader training will give

any volunteers the necessary tools to successfully lead others during the work parties in the future. This team leader training will cover several leadership and home securing techniques, including damage assessment, homeowner needs information collection, volunteer safety, and debris removal and resource salvaging. These team leaders are essential to getting volunteer crews out and in the field and making the process of helping the victims of the typhoon go smoothly and efficiently.

The other training is a canvassing training on Fridays from 6pm to 7pm at the TSL Plaza on the third floor. The canvassing training will train volunteers on how to properly assess damage to people's homes, listen to the survivors with compassion, help discover unmet needs of the survivors, and how to refer people to organizations that are trying to help. **(CARE)**

High surf and small craft advisories

A large swell from distant Typhoon Champi will continue to generate hazardous surf in the Marianas in the next few days, based on information received from the National Weather Service in Guam and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operation Center.



A high surf advisory remains in effect until 6am Friday.

Surf will be hazardous at 9 to 11 feet on west and north facing reefs, then diminish slightly to between 8 and 10 feet today, Wednesday. Surf along west and north facing reefs will remain hazardous through at least Friday.

A small craft advisory for hazardous seas remains in effect until 6pm today.

Combined seas of 8 to 11 feet will subside to between 7 and 10 feet by today, Wednesday. Seas are expected to subside to below advisory levels this evening.

The public is being advised to avoid boating in these conditions. If travel by boat is necessary, exercise caution especially those operating smaller vessels. Avoid navigating in these conditions, especially those facing north, south and west as rip currents will be life threatening. **(HSEM)**

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(C) Meet one or more of the following:

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School year calendar is based on how the local school district defines its school year quarters.
3. A recipient of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent who is a low-income individual and is either basic skills deficient or an English language learner
4. An individual who is subject to the juvenile or adult justice system
5. A homeless individual, a runaway, an individual who is in foster care or has aged out of the foster care system, a child eligible for assistance under Section 477 of the Social Security Act, or an individual who is an out-of-home placement
6. An individual who is pregnant or parenting
7. An individual with a disability
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Saipan Tribune, Inc. is inviting individuals to apply for the following positions:

REPORTER

Associates degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any related course; At least 3 years work related experience; Above-average writing skills and a competent grasp of grammar and syntax; With rigorous standards for accuracy and detail; Ability to work within deadlines and in a stressful environment; Knowledgeable in all types of writing, including news and features; With photography skills.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Saipan Tribune, Inc. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, October 30, 2015.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

EPA awards over \$9M to the CNMI

»Water and wastewater systems to receive \$6.7 million for improvements

HONOLULU—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently awarded \$9 million to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to continue its efforts to protect human health and the environment. The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will receive \$6.7 million for wastewater and drinking water infrastructure support. The CNMI Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality is receiving an additional \$2.3 million to support environmental program operations; \$1.9 million went to BECQ in July and another \$400,000 is being awarded now.

"This much-needed funding will help the CNMI provide cleaner, safer drinking water, while protecting its coral reefs," said Jared Blumenfeld, EPA's Regional Administrator for the Pacific Southwest. "We will continue to support [the] CNMI's efforts to ensure a better environment for [its] residents."

CUC, the agency that provides utility services to residents, will use the \$6.7 million for water infrastructure projects to provide 24-hour service to its

customers, improve drinking water quality, and prevent water pollution, strengthening the resiliency of their drinking water system against impacts from storms such as Typhoon Soude-lor. Targeted projects include water storage tank replacements and repairs, waterline replacements, sewer lift station renovations and sewer system improvements.

The work done by BECQ to protect human health and the environment includes inspections, projects to clean up formerly contaminated areas for productive use, monitoring the safety of pesticide use, programs to ensure clean beaches and safe drinking water, coral reef protection from runoff and sedimentation, and targeted projects to clean up polluted streams.

Environmental priorities for the EPA funding include:

- Ensuring safe, reliable drinking water;
- Making coastal waters safe for fishing, swimming, and marine life;
- Protecting coral reefs and

public health by monitoring beaches and water quality, and implementing recently updated Water Quality Standards.

- Cleaning up Saipan's watersheds by reducing pollution sources such as outhouses, illegal on-site disposal systems, piggeries, urban runoff, and livestock grazing.

- Conducting a radon assessment at selected homes and institutional buildings;

- Implementing a Conservation Action Plan to reduce and mitigate stormwater runoff for the Garapan area;

- Eliminating the illegal importation of pesticides and use of un-registered/foreign pesticides;

- Inspecting fuel storage tanks in order to prevent fuel leaks;

- Emergency response, hazardous waste, and clean air program management; and

- Improving the automation, standardization, and access of environmental data.

The EPA's Pacific Southwest Region (Region 9) administers and enforces federal environmental laws in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, the Pacific Islands and 148 tribal nations—home to 50 million people. (USEPA)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Pink Warrior Walkathon this Saturday

The Pink Warrior Walkathon will be held this Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015. Registration starts at 6am at the Naked Fish parking lot where you'll submit your pledge forms.

Children get a DFEMS fire helmet when \$100 is pledged. Adults get a pink DFEMS T-shirt when \$100 is pledged. Pledge forms are available at all fire stations and Bank of Guam Garapan. All proceeds go to the Commonwealth Cancer Association in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Join firemen after the walk for a firetruck hands-on display. (DFEMS)

Catch KSPN2 News on radio and Internet

With Docomo cable TV still down due to Typhoon Soude-lor, KSPN2 News continues to broadcast on the radio and Internet. Tune in to Magic 100.3 at 6pm Monday to Friday. You can also watch the news broadcast online at www.kspn2.com. For a higher quality, more mobile-friendly option after 8pm, check out www.saipantv.com. (PR)

Air Force training at FDM

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Oct. 22, from 10:30am to 3pm. The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the area during the date and time indicated. The general location of the training on the island of

Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. (PR)

USDA offers funding for high energy cost grants

Up to \$10 million in competitive grants is now available to assist communities with extremely high energy costs. Grants in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's High Energy Cost program are available to communities with annual residential energy costs exceeding 275 percent of the national average. The grants may

be used to acquire, construct, extend, upgrade or otherwise improve energy generation, transmission or distribution facilities serving eligible communities. They may also be used to install on- and off-grid renewable energy systems and to make energy efficiency improvements. For details on eligibility and application requirements and how to obtain application materials, see page 61336 of the Oct. 13, 2015, *Federal Register*. The application deadline is Dec. 14, 2015. (USDA)

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-16-001

WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified insurance firms to provide workers' compensation insurance and administration for CUC's employees throughout the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and when on official business away from the CNMI.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFP package set. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division by 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 29, 2015 to be considered.

One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-16-001, Workers' Compensation & Administration", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than November 17, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 30, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Procurement Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.gov.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JOHN RIEGEL
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Senate OKs bill to block DPL from leasing lands for CJMT

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate has approved a bill to prohibit the Department of Public Lands from leasing any lands of the Commonwealth for any military live-fire or bombing activity, as well as mandate that any proposed public land lease for military activity be ratified by the people of the Commonwealth at a general or special election.

"With the scarce amount of land mass in the CNMI, it is imperative that our government preserves the remaining islands in the CNMI for future generations. The U.S. has ruined the island of [Farallon de Medinilla] with its live bombs, live fire, and military training.

The CNMI has lost any and all political, cultural, and economic value and use of FDM. It is for this reason that the Commonwealth cannot risk losing another one of its pris-

tine islands at the hands of the U.S. military," the bill states.

The bill states that DPL shall not lease any public land within the CNMI for any military live-fire or bombing activity. It man-

dates that the department will not lease any public land for any other activity until the proposed lease agreement is ratified by vote and "approved by two-thirds of the votes cast to

approve the lease agreement."

The bill cites the "CNMI Joint Military Training" project, which proposes to lease the entire island of Pagan for military training. The Senate believes

it would be a travesty for the CNMI to allow the U.S. military to "unilaterally occupy and destroy" the island's natural environment, as there is an expressed interest in its resettlement.

OAG opposes couple's request for order of payment in death of baby

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General is opposing a couple's request for a court order directing the CNMI government to pay them the \$35,000 settlement that was entered in July 2013 in their lawsuit over the death of their child during delivery at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Assistant attorney general

David Lochabay asserted that the motion filed by Jotonia B. Aguon and Timothy Cruz is not supported by any authority and should be denied on that ground alone.

As counsel for the CNMI government and the Department of Public Health and Services, Lochabay filed yesterday the opposition to the couple's motion for order in aid of judgment.

The motion will be heard

by Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho on Nov. 17, 2015, at 1:30pm.

If the court considers the plaintiffs' bare assertions, Lochabay said the couple's interpretation of the government's budget would lead to patently absurd results.

The government lawyer also asserted that a CNMI Supreme Court previous ruling forbids courts from directly or indirectly ordering payment of judg-

ments for which the Legislature has not appropriated funds.

In their motion, Aguon and Cruz, through counsel Michael Dotts, asked the court to direct the government to pay them the final judgment of \$35,000 that was entered in July 2013.

According to Dotts, the government has not ever made even a partial payment despite agreeing to a settlement.

Dotts said then-assistant attorney general Joey P. San Nicolas, as counsel for the government, signed an agreement for an entry of \$35,000 judgment against the Commonwealth on July 17, 2013.

Dotts said despite being alive in the womb, the child was later born dead. The lawyer alleged that the government was negligent in the staffing at CHC and that the doctor was negligent in failing to timely recognize fetal distress and failing to perform a C-section.

Dotts said the court has the power to aid Aguon and Cruz via the Appropriation and Budget Act of 2016, which vests the governor with "reprogramming authority within the Executive Branch."

This authority, Dotts added, essentially means that the amount of the appropriation to the Executive Branch has also been appropriated to the payment of judgments.

In the government's opposition, Lochabay said the plaintiffs' motion contains five paragraphs, none longer than a few lines.

Lochabay said the plaintiffs made only one citation in a case in which the court held that a court could not direct the Legislature to appropriate funds to pay a judgment.

Lochabay said the plaintiffs cited the court ruling not in support of their claims, which it does not, but to inform the court of the current status of the law.

The government lawyer said an order of the court directing the governor to exercise his reprogramming authority for any purpose would likely be a violation of the separation of powers doctrine.

"The Legislature chose to give reprogramming authority to the governor, not the court," he pointed out.

On budget issue, Lochabay said plaintiffs' position that a balanced budget must provide for the payment of millions of dollars of unpaid judgments is just another of their bare assertions.

Lochabay said the plaintiffs simply make a bare assertion of what they think a balanced budget is, and leave it to the court and opposing counsel to supply substance to the assertion.

WIOA Dislocated Worker Funding Program

If any of these categories apply to you, please contact WIA.

Category A: General Dislocated Workers. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment;
2. Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIOA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
3. Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

Category B: Plant Closure. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, plant, facility, or enterprise;
2. Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such facility close within 180 days; or
3. For purpose of eligibility to receive services other than training, intensive or supportive services under WIOA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made general announcement that such facility will close.

Category C: Self Employed or Unemployed. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Was self employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

Category D: is a displaced homemaker;

DISPLACED HOMEMAKER—The term "displaced homemaker" means an individual who has been providing unpaid services to family members in the home and who—

- (A) (i) has been dependent on the income of another family member but is no longer supported by that income; or (ii) is the dependent spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code) and whose family income is significantly reduced because of a deployment (as defined in section 991(b) of title 10, United States Code, or pursuant to paragraph (4) of such section), a call or order to active duty pursuant to a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13)(B) of title 10, United States Code, a permanent change of station, or the service-connected (as defined in section 101(16) of title 38, United States Code) death or disability of the member; and
- (B) is unemployed or underemployed and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment.

Category E:

1. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code), and who has experienced a loss of employment as a direct result of relocation to accommodate a permanent change in duty station of such member; or
2. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty and who meets the criteria described in Displaced Homemaker Definition (B).

You may be able to qualify for services under WIOA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements apply.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXV, Issue No. 209Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
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EDITORIAL

Putin's intervention in Syria demands a US response

Say this much for Russian President Vladimir Putin: He knows the U.S. and the world will take him seriously only if they have no choice. This is the logic behind his military intervention in Syria, and it demands a U.S. response.

Yet U.S. President Barack Obama seems to be at a loss, warning Putin that he will make the war worse and that he'll be stuck in a "quagmire." The first is definitely true; the second may be eventually. In the meantime, too many lives and U.S. interests are at stake for Obama to stand aside and hope Putin will dig himself an Afghanistan-size hole in Syria.

What, then, is the alternative? The administration's main goal should be as simple as it is difficult: help the refugees, and by doing so, help create the conditions for a political settlement.

That means creating havens for refugees and other noncombatants in rebel-held areas that have been made safe from Syrian President Bashar Assad and the Islamic State alike. In the south, along the Jordanian border, there is an area already dominated by a coalition of more than 50 militia groups that are working with the U.S. and Jordan. In the north, Turkey has proposed a similar zone along its border, currently controlled in large part by the Islamic State.

At the same time, the U.S. should demand Putin use his influence with Assad to ground Syria's helicopter fleet, which has dropped thousands of barrel bombs on civilians in rebel-held areas. And if Putin fails or refuses, which seems likely, the U.S. should be prepared to do the job itself. Russia also needs to be made to understand that if it targets U.S.-backed rebels or safe zones, the U.S. will expand its air war to include Assad's forces.

All this will require a greater U.S. presence, of course, but it needn't be in the form of combat troops—which, as Obama has made clear, aren't forthcoming in any event. Instead, the focus should be on strengthening NATO's presence in the region, especially along the Turkish-Syrian border, which would not only protect the safe havens but also interfere with Putin's more dangerous mischief.

One manifestation of that mischief is now unfolding in the northern city of Aleppo, where rebels who hold much of the city are coming under assault from Russian air power, as well as Syrian, Iranian and Hezbollah troops from one side, and the Islamic State from the other. Without support, Aleppo will probably fall.

More than a million refugees would then flee the region, by some estimates. Those remaining in the city, which is mostly Sunni, could not be expected to meekly accept the re-imposition of Assad's rule and would become further radicalized. Inevitably, some number of them would turn to the Islamic State. None of this would bring the war's end any closer, or serve U.S. interests in the Middle East.

Russia's involvement in Syria makes an already brutal and convoluted situation even more so. That said, if the U.S. fails to respond, the conflict in Syria only stands to get worse. As a strategy, neglect is no longer tenable.

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Either/Or vs Vive la difference

I remind my Chinese ward that to *agree* and *disagree* is not the only option. The French taught me that one could *agree* and *differ*; then celebrate *vive la difference*!

In *Refaluwasch* Lino Olopai's *Rope of Tradition*, he recalls that the 6th grade graduate of elementary school was one time worried about not having enough credentials to hold a position with the U.S. Peace Corps. He turned out to be an invaluable PCV asset in the Carolinian language as writer and pedagogue. Lino is an "and/both."

My eldest commutes from Tar Heel country to Boston. She has a BA major closer to cultural anthropology than management of digitized database. She holiday time with us in DC and found herself sorting hardcopies of her office's db, so she mastered Microsoft's Access and segued to Oracle. Now, she attends Oracle's annual to-do in San Francisco, elbowing with the likes of company founder Larry Ellison who now virtually owns Lanai of Hawaii.

I was recently disqualified to teach at NMC on the basis of a BA from a Philippine college. A mindset of "either/or" deficiency made the judgment. I was ready to write syllabi for English courses I was to teach in four days but the lady "going by the books" on WASC accreditation could not see the logic of allowing a greater variety and scope of outcomes other than a rigid "either/or" of the rule on onionskins. The conjunctive correlative of "both/and" is more useful in the real world.

A rigid adherence to deciding only on the basis of two options may be neat and clean, particularly when what is required is simply an "aye" or a "nay" for certain acts. Like in response to "are you with me or not," it involves an ultimate choice where further reason is not required. A decision of "yes or no" is sufficient.

But in other instances, multiple variations apply. "Are you with me or not" sometimes involves an "if," like how a lady wishes to appear and be perceived at a peer party, or a young man longs to first comb his hair before being seen in public. Distance between impressions of the sense and the imperative to act is replete with strongly felt emotions and deep thoughts seriously held; "either/or" choice is not always appropriate.

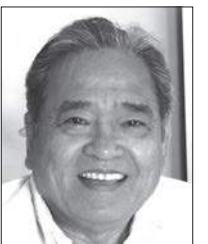
Danish Søren Kierkegaard, who keeps Hillary Clinton's vocabulary current, penned two volumes of *Either/Or* that got the phrase into the English idiom. The choice he saw was between the hedonist (sensual) and the aesthete (moral), and Søren as a philosopher and theologian found the two incompatible. Existence and essence were philosophical lingo of his time. "Existential" combines the two with a "leap of faith" that characterized Søren's maturity before he died.

Philosophical discourse is not our immediate interest. How we decide our choices is. Human knowledge has advanced enough that

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



on just the structure of the brain, the sense impression (the medulla oblongata starts the sensual process) that leads to preferences from previous experiences (emotions and feelings nursed around the cerebellum) and the dialogue with others (ideas and thoughts in the cerebrum) are bridges to cross before the body goes into a willful act. "Beliefs" is in the borderline of emotion and cognition.

Kim Davis of Kentucky goes by belief; Monsignor Krzysztof Charamsa of Polish descent, of late a Vatican functionary, forced the papacy, in the light of Pope Francis' deft touch on same-sex relations, to publicly acknowledge that among the clergy are gays, himself included, parading his partner in the process. For his deed, he was fired; he violated his celibacy vows and was "irresponsible" to make a matter of moral sensitivity public. Of course!

Thus, "either/or" by itself is no longer adequate as a means of decision-making. The French painfully learned their lesson on the shades of differences when they ran their colonies in Indochina. *Vive la difference*, an ethos in the arts and humanities of Paris, differed with what the gendarmes in Vientiane dealt with. Indochina preferred clean and neat orders that did not sit well with the reality of messy democracy.

Blame making is an area where "either/or" is a methodological giant. Tinian Dynasty's staying open was premised on license renewal. BSI investments under the PR of "integrated resort" hope to avoid an "either-or" dichotomy.

Saipan is not gung-ho on ripping off Chinese gamblers. Limited foray to island casinos is not very promising from a business perspective, in my view; there are more workers on the floor as there are players.

The referenda that defeated casino gambling twice did not stick as the sad history of one-armed bandits in every village was outshone by the allure of *mucho dinero, padrino*.

Authentic life is more than playing a game of chance. Polarized choices are dichotomies with false pretenses. We uphold differences even if the casinos hold the advantage on simple odds. You may roll the dice now, please.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Regional security issue

Without the right information, we're basically taking pot shots on the future use of Pagan by the military. Unless the NMI secures the right data from bilateral agreements between our country and allied partners in the Asian region, discussions would be futile.

Moreover, the issue may be local but "foreign affairs" in nature only the Department of State could review and dispose in concert with other pertinent agencies of the federal government like the Department of Defense. Regardless, I still think our voice must be heard. It's our land!

We do know that legally such plans require a two-step process that must pass muster in the U.S. Congress. Would the U.S. Congress give its imprimatur? It remains to be seen. But would acquiring Pagan persist? I have a strange feeling DoD would move on with its plans. We still have the upper hand before Congress. Let's include Sen. John McCain in our conversation!

Read an interesting observation by former U.S. Attorney Edward Lynch on PDN recently who said that as the U.S. adjusts its strategic plan for Asia it deals with "military rebalance to the region and the Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement.

This alone would bring "unprecedented growth" to the economy of the NMI and Guam. The Western Pacific region is recognized as the world's economic powerhouse with the three top economies in the world based upon gross domestic profit and just three to five hours away from our shores.

Lynch said the rebalance in Asia "is not about fighting wars but about assuring stability for economic growth in the region." The TPP could not have happened but for a renewed emphasis on Asia by Washington, D.C. It is only because of the stability the U.S. presence in Asia brings to the region that agreements like the TPP are possible.

With the two global economic giants in the region it doesn't make any sense boasting firepower when it is far more responsible ensuring the welfare of nations on the economic front. I doubt too that regional hegemony is on top of either country's agenda.

"Guam and CNMI are U.S. duty free zones; they have U.S. courts, U.S. laws and U.S. law enforcement," Lynch noted. "They have political stability; they have U.S. telecommunications privacy; they have U.S. labor; they support economic freedom. In essence, they are U.S. in Asia. The location of the NMI and Guam "makes it the perfect location for companies entering

Asia" to take advantage of TPP to headquarter or operate their Asia venture.

The Covenant has set duty free products from the NMI from the days of the shuttered apparel industry. It's an opportunity for the NMI to serve as the headquarters and launch pad of large-scale businesses to take advantage of our duty free status. We had tons of money in the mid-'80s with an apparel industry raking in \$1.2 billion per year. Let's review this issue (TPP) to get a clearer view where we're headed.

Longline fishing agreement

The signing of a longline fishing agreement with firms in Hawaii is an issue that we must tread carefully. Sure, it has the attractive feature to use the fees to build a fishermen's co-op. What the Hawaii firms do out here when catching big-eye tuna must be monitored with a fine toothcomb.

Yet, there's money to begin a long awaited fisheries development program here that could very well expand into a solid sector on fisheries and eventually revenue generation. Recalled in 1977 a Hawaiian fishing firm asking if we could ship three tons of *mahi mahi* to Honolulu weekly. Our answer was a highly suspect yes that died at the pier! How do we catch three tons of fish? Hell, I even had a nightmare just thinking of the entire process.

'Tell It Like It Is!'

My two partners in crime think it's time that we let go of polite niceties by just practicing short lyrics from a popular song of the sixties, "Tell it like it is..." Screw the consequence. Go for it! It's their view that at a legal age one should ably make mature decisions.

Said Magoo: "Don't afraid to mistake. That's why we come back because we mistake." There's a second chance. "Screw fear of mistakes! Let them mistake!" It's a sure path to claiming your personal freedom! "If you don't mistake they couldn't care less. So go ahead and mistake!" Love his level of confidence!

If you're being mindful then you end up using polite niceties to avoid offending others. So why would it matter what they think of you? Isn't the decision yours and yours alone?

Admittedly, I've been in and out of this junction so many times before for over 50 years. Must have thick skin to muddle through. Don't look to the side or behind you. Look straight ahead in all your decision-making. After all, your head is on your shoulders

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



so placed there since birth looking forward, sayu? "Don't afraid to mistake!"

Across the room stood Gooley a very mindful and mature person in his dispositions. He said he'd stick to respecting the rights of others. "It's all a matter of fostering and nurturing a good working relationship that matters", he related. He emphasized that it's the bridge to expanding one's horizon with the rest of the community. I respectfully disagree!

While the exchange got busier by the minute, I started bouncing back and forth in that one side reflects my youthful indecisions the other a sense of maturity. We could go on with other similar experiences. But think for a moment the freedom you would have conquered if you "tell it like it is." It's your decision!

A Playmate's lament: No nudity? Say it ain't so, Hef

By **CANDACE JORDAN**

Chicago Tribune

Candace Jordan is a ChicagoNow blogger and authors the Candid Candace column in the Sunday edition of the Chicago Tribune, for whom this was written.



When I was a Playboy centerfold in December 1979, the magazine's monthly circulation was around 5.6 million. Today, that has dropped to 800,000. Last year, the Playboy website dumped nudity. Clearly, something isn't working.

But I think Playboy founder Hugh Hefner's recent decision to drop nudity and only publish photos that are "PG-13" is patently the wrong thing to do. I don't think it's the direction Hef would take if he weren't being guided by his editors.

I was around when Playboy changed its editorial concept and embraced full frontal nudity to compete with Penthouse. The pictures were down and dirty—but that wasn't Hef's taste. His original concept, the nude "girl next door," was what made the magazine great.

The early Playmates were not actresses or models, just very attractive women. They were accessible, friendly, smiling and sexy. I loved the golden years of Playboy in the '70s, when the girls were enticingly photographed in the nude.

If Playboy's plan is to run photos that are "more like the racier sections of Instagram," as The New York Times reported, then count me out as a fan. I find it incredible that Playboy is following the herd mentality inspired by this social media platform.

Anyone can snap an Instagram photo. It's much more difficult to photograph a woman and make her look like the images created by classic Playboy photographers Richard Fegley, Pompeo Posar and Amy Freytag.

This is all about the bottom line. Nudity was omitted from Playboy's website in 2014 to make the content "safe" for sharing on social media. As a result, according to the Times, the average age of the Playboy site's reader "dropped from 47 to just over 30, and its web traffic jumped to about 16 million from about 4 million unique users per month."

I'm not sure what to make of this.

I know my fans are still out there because when I post my vintage Playboy photos, I receive a great response. I know there are still Playboy followers out there who appreciate Hef's original centerfold concept.

I realize you have to change with the times. I understand the need for a magazine revamp. I just wish it wasn't at the expense of the glamorous, iconic Playboy Playmate image.

Selfishly, I should be thankful. This means there will be a finite number of Playboy centerfolds and an even smaller number of Playmates who were Playboy Bunnies like me.

And then she smiled.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Shameful blaming of senators

Blaming the senators for a raise that was approved by the House of Representatives and the governor is a very shameful and misleading act of blame. I do understand the frustration of those who opposed the increase in funding for the cost of living given our situation but I don't think they stopped to think about how the cost of living in the CNMI is skyrocketing for all of us. Those who purchase food, pay rent, and buy various products on Saipan know that the costs are continuing to rise for everything, which is something a person living in Portland may not be aware of. The senators needed this raise as the life and cost of living as a senator is far above the needs of a person who don't have to live and eat in public places but live in their own home and cook their own food, which is especially true for the senators from Rota and Tinian who must for all practical purposes live on Saipan for most of their term. So I must ask, is it truly being realistic to blame senators for getting a raise to offset the continuing rise in the cost of living?

Why wasn't there a single complaint about the House of Representatives and the governor who approved the raise? We call this kind of blame game behavior as being biased and even prejudiced toward the Senate. Why wasn't a solution offered to help the senators and the CNMI find more money to fund their raises? I didn't write this to defend the senators but to simply ask: Is it being realistic to blame senators when others approved and contributed to make the raise a reality? It is easy to find fault and to point the finger of blame but, like I was taught at a very young age, when you are pointing at a person, make sure that you are not pointing three fingers back at yourself. The solution is really philosophical in learning to point with your entire hand (using five fingers with five points of factual justification) that will justify your complaint and not to use a single finger of blame driven solely by frustration or even dislike for a person or group. That is properly known as stereotyping, which is a shameful thing to do.

I've even seen some of our leaders calling federal officials names but calling elected officials gangsters and accusing them of not caring is not going to help with a solution. I know from

experience as I have called our leaders some of everything and it didn't change their behavior. But I have *learned* that helping our leaders to *find* solutions can be far more productive than public name calling because they are human and many of them will not take kindly to insults and will even act like they didn't hear you! The senators and everyone on the hill do care, that is why they ran for office in the first place and I will be the first to say that some do care more than others and that some will do more than others. But we can't play God in judging them as we must leave that kind of judgement to God.

I'm not seeking to get anyone to back down in voicing their concerns about the true waste, fraud, and corruption in the CNMI because name calling is not a solution. But I do think people should be doing more to help with solutions than pointing fingers of blame. A person living in Oregon should know how lucrative it would be for the CNMI to legalize marijuana which could pay for the senators' increase in the cost of living and pay for a lot of other things that we need, including the restoration of the Retirement Fund. Help the senators promote legalization because there hasn't been a single whisper of a solution to fund the senators' increase. The Senate is working to finalize a legalization bill that will have the potential to transform the CNMI and deliver genuine prosperity by doubling and even tripling our budget capacity within a few years so if you want to complain about the senators' increase, then make sure you support the Senate bill for legalization and you won't have to complain about a raise. In other words, promote solutions and prosperity and stop shouting blame because it's the solution we need to experience, not a shameful blame and name calling experience which accomplishes nothing! Learn to be more productive and constructive because the name calling blame game only serves to be destructive!

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY

Mostly cloudy and hazy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲86° ▼76°

THURSDAY

Mostly cloudy and hazy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲86° ▼77°

FRIDAY

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.

▲87° ▼77°

SATURDAY

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.

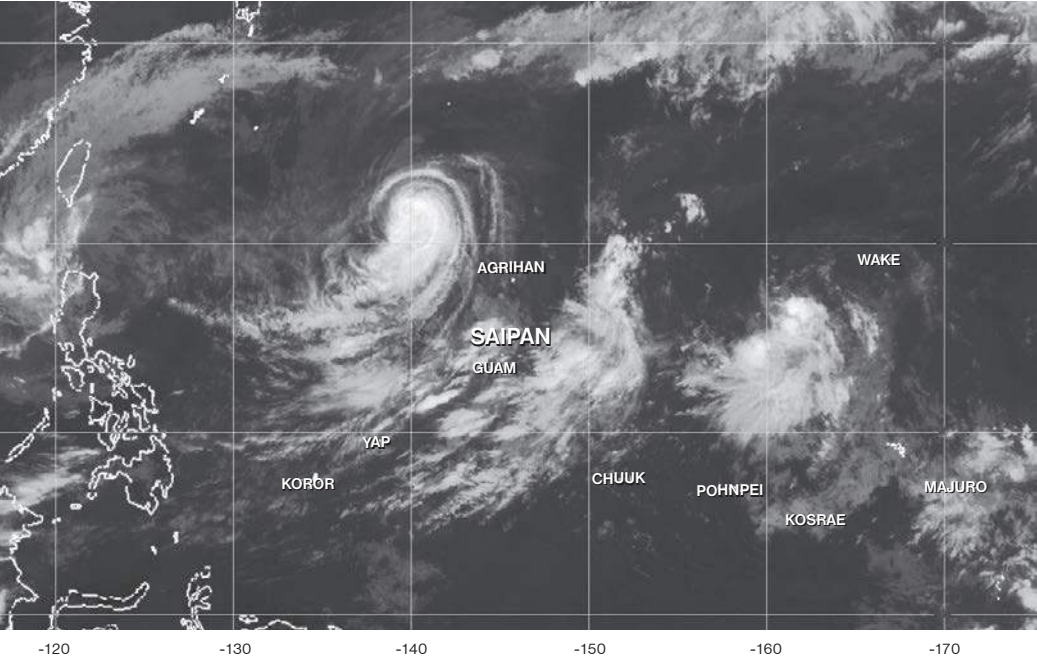
▲87° ▼77°

SUNDAY

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.

▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Champi (25W) is centered 580 miles northwest of Saipan at 22N140E drifting north at 5 mph with maximum sustained winds of 115 mph. Heavy rain and a few thunderstorms near the center are between 19N and 23N from 139E to 142E. Scattered showers northwest of Champi are north of 20N from 133E to 139E. For more information on Typhoon Champi, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. Southwest monsoon winds are triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of Yap between 10N and 17N from 134E to 140E and from the Mariana Islands to northwest of Chuuk between 7N and 16N from 140E to 150E. A monsoon trough extends eastward from a weak circulation centered north of Chuuk at 17N153E through another circulation southwest of Wake Island at 17N163E then curves southeastward to beyond the date line at 5N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of Chuuk are between 8N and 20N from 150E to 154E and north of Pohnpei and Kosrae between 8N and 18N from 159E to 167E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are also in patchy areas from the Marshall Islands to near Tarawa between 10N and the equator from 167E to 176E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼77
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼80
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼78
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼80

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼55
Beijing	Showers	▲55	▼48
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼75
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼77
London	Showers	▲59	▼52
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲81	▼62
Manila	Showers	▲86	▼76
Melbourne	Showers	▲65	▼53
Miami	Windy	▲85	▼75
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼55
Osaka	Sunny	▲80	▼59
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲59	▼52
Pusan	Sunny	▲73	▼55
Rome	Cloudy	▲63	▼54
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼45
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲75	▼60
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲77	▼53
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼57
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲70	▼47

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
12:51 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
8:20 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
3:41 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
9:35 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:10 AM	5:54 PM
Thursday	6:10 AM	5:53 PM
Friday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	5:52 PM
Sunday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	12:45 PM	
Thursday	1:36 PM	12:36 AM
Friday	2:25 PM	1:34 AM
Saturday	3:14 PM	2:32 AM
Sunday	4:04 PM	3:32 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2015

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5039	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA5039	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5038	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA5038	12:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA5078	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA5077	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA5072	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA5079	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5038	12:15pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5038	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	twice weekly	DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	twice weekly
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5	OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7				
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	DL276/288	9:20am	1:30am+1	twice weekly via NRT
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/5079	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	twice weekly via NRT	UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	1, via GUM-Rota
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5079	10:25pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/5038	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/5079	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5038	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA5038/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM	UA180/5077	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
				UA180/5079	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						

ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Business

Crackdown: Amazon sues to stop phony product reviews

NEW YORK (AP)—Internet users increasingly rely on on-line customer reviews when making spending decisions, whether they're buying an iPhone case on Amazon or hiring an Uber ride in their hometown. But just how much can you trust those reviews?

A new lawsuit in which Amazon accuses more than 1,000 people of offering to post bogus glowing write-ups for as little as \$5 apiece might give you pause.

The case, filed in Washington state court Friday by the nation's biggest online retailer, casts light on what appears to be a burgeoning practice: the commissioning of paid, fake reviews that masquerade as testimonials from ordinary people.

Fake reviews are nothing new to online retailing, and Amazon is far from the only big company affected. Yelp's restaurant reviews and TripAdvisor's hotel ratings have long been a target of critics who claim that merchants can easily post positive reviews of their own businesses.

Amazon's legal counteroffensive, however, appears to be one



In this Oct. 18, 2010 file photo, an Amazon.com package awaits delivery from UPS in Palo Alto, Calif.

of the most aggressive attempts yet by a major U.S. e-commerce company to fight back.

Its lawsuit alleges that individuals would write five-star reviews about products they never even tried, and plotted with product makers to subvert Amazon safeguards that are meant to bolster confidence in the website's reviews.

"Suing the reviewers is a way to discourage them from doing it again," said Wedbush analyst Michael Pachter. "They're trying to make a statement that you can rely on the integrity of the reviews on the site."

There are powerful incentives to plant fraudulent reviews.

About 45 percent of consumers consider product reviews

when weighing an online purchase, according to Forrester Research. Two-thirds of shoppers trust consumer opinions online, according to research by Nielsen.

For small businesses, it can be more economical to pay for positive reviews than to buy advertising.

For example, a half-star in-

crease in a restaurant's online rating can increase the likelihood of securing, say, a 7 p.m. booking by 15 to 20 percent, said Jenny Sussin, a director at Gartner Research. So a restaurateur might be tempted to pay \$250 for 50 positive reviews online in the hopes of raising that rating.

Online sites like Amazon, Yelp and TripAdvisor have

worked hard to thwart the planting of fake reviews—a practice sometimes called "astroturfing," a reference to the synthetic grass used on sports fields.

They employ computer algorithms and teams of investigators who scour reviews and delete suspicious entries. Often, only people who have paid for a product or service and been verified can post reviews.

'Confrontation' not necessary in asking for a pay increase

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By **MARIE G. MCINTYRE**

Tribune News Service



Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of "Secrets to Winning at Office Politics."

Q: Although I was promoted more than a year ago, no one ever said anything about a raise. I don't think I should have to go crawling to management for money, but I'm tired of doing more work for the same pay. Since this company doesn't do performance reviews, the subject will never come up unless I say something.

A: Unfortunately, I am not confrontational by nature and I don't like asking for things. I am also not sure who I should approach. My best friend's father is one of the owners, so should I go to him?

A: Because salary discussions require an appropriately assertive attitude, you must first overcome your discomfort with "asking for things." This reluctance may have already cost you, since you could have inquired about this raise 12 months ago. Employees who wait for management to correct inequities often experience a long delay, since their bosses may not even be thinking about the issue.

Also, describing yourself as non-confrontational seems to imply that you feel confrontation will be necessary to resolve this problem. However, approaching management in a resentful manner will not aid your cause and could easily backfire. So you should view this conversation as a request, not a demand.

To increase your odds of success, you must present your case in a businesslike manner. Factors to consider include the level of your position, management's view of your performance, your company's financial situation and relevant salary comparisons.

For example: "Now that I've held a higher-level position for over a year, I wanted to talk with you about a promotional increase. Since you seem to be pleased with my work, I would like to see if we could agree on a salary that would match my current responsibilities. After researching comparable positions, I thought a 7 percent increase might be reasonable."

Under most circumstances, your immediate manager would be the logical person to approach. Involving the owner could look like you're trying to pull strings and bypass your boss. But if this business only has a few employees, then talking with your friend's dad might be OK.

Q: Because I work at the reception desk, I am supposed to greet people and make them feel welcome. However, I'm also responsible for a lot of administrative tasks. Some of our visitors like to chat while they're waiting and they often wait for quite a while. How can I shorten these conversations without seeming rude?

A: Escaping conversation is easier at work, because the need to get your job done trumps most other circumstances. Being the official greeter does require you to engage in a certain amount of small talk, but once you have been appropriately sociable, you may politely excuse yourself.

After exchanging a few pleasantries, simply smile and say something like "Well, I've enjoyed chatting, but my boss is expecting this report, so I'd better get back to it." Most people will understand and end the conversation. But if some pathologically extroverted guests are too obtuse to take the hint, just remain in receptionist mode until someone comes to take them away.

United Airlines names general counsel acting CEO

DALLAS (AP)—United Airlines named an acting CEO on Monday night to replace its chief executive who suffered a heart attack about a month into the job.

The company said that general counsel Brett J. Hart had taken over for Oscar Munoz, who went on medical leave.

United confirmed that Munoz suffered a heart attack Thursday. The company said it was too soon to know how long he would need to recover.

Munoz, 56, became CEO in early September after Jeff Smisek abruptly stepped down amid a federal investigation.

The announcement of an acting CEO came after four days of speculation about leadership at the world's second-largest airline. Until Monday night, the

company had refused meaningful comment on the situation, issuing two brief statements that said Munoz was in the hospital but giving no details about his condition or who was running the airline. United cited privacy concerns for Munoz and his family.

The United Continental Holdings Inc. board turned to an insider as acting CEO. Hart, currently an executive vice president, joined United in 2010 after holding a similar position at Sara Lee. He previously was a law firm partner and a lawyer for the U.S. Treasury Department.

In a statement, Hart, 46, said he would move quickly to act on Munoz's plan to improve customer service and increase shareholder value.

Publicly traded companies

must disclose when there is a change in CEOs, but there is no legal requirement to swiftly disclose a health setback or hospitalization of a top executive. It is up to the board to decide whether the information is material—whether investors would consider it important.

Companies have tilted toward more disclosure ever since Apple Inc. was criticized for failing to give shareholders a complete picture about the health of CEO Steve Jobs, who died of pancreatic cancer in 2011. Last month, Goldman Sachs CEO Lloyd Blankfein disclosed he had lymphoma, and last year JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon revealed that he had been diagnosed with throat cancer.

United's stance had drawn criticism. Vicki Bryan, an ana-

lyst for bond-research firm Gimme Credit, said earlier Monday that United's previous statement about Munoz's health was surprisingly sparse and raised more concerns than it answered. She said that United needed to be more open, "particularly in light of United's substantial management upheaval in recent months."

Jill Fisch, a law professor and corporate-governance expert at the University of Pennsylvania, said boards are wary of making a statement about the CEO's health that might turn out to be too optimistic or too pessimistic—either could get them sued, she said. She added that doctors operate under their own confidentiality rules and might not have shared much information with United.

Lawsuits could force VW to buy back cheating diesels

DETROIT (AP)—Volkswagen almost inevitably will have to compensate owners of diesel cars equipped with emissions-rigging software. Some legal experts say the automaker could be forced to buy back the cars altogether.

Many of the more than 200 lawsuits filed in the past few weeks allege that for seven years VW marketed four-cylinder diesel Golfs, Jetas, Beetles and Passats as clean alternatives to gas engines, knowing all along that the cars were spewing pollution that far exceeded

legal limits.

In September, Volkswagen admitted to rigging emissions tests in the U.S. Earlier this month, Michael Horn, the head of its U.S. operations, told a congressional panel that VW was considering compensating owners for the lost value of their cars. He also said that it could take from one to two years to fix all the affected cars.

Seattle lawyer Steve Berman seized on that time frame when he sued VW last week in Los Angeles, seeking full restitution for owners of nearly 70,000 af-

fected cars in California.

In a somewhat unique approach, Berman is seeking to get his clients their money back under California laws requiring automakers to guarantee emissions control parts for up to seven years or 70,000 miles. His lawsuit says that VW can't promptly make its diesels comply with the warranty, so under a different statute it "shall either promptly replace the new motor vehicle or promptly make restitution to the buyer."

The Environmental Protection Agency has said the VW

diesels emit 10 times to 40 times the legal limit of nitrogen oxide.

"Our clients don't want to wait a year. They don't want to be driving a dirty car," Berman says.

The plaintiffs make the case that the cars can't be driven legally since they violate pollution standards, says University of Southern California law professor Greg Keating, who specializes in consumer fraud cases. Even though the EPA says the cars can legally stay on the roads, eventually states with pollution tests will force owners to comply with the law, he says.

Nation

Student arrested for homemade clock visits White House

WASHINGTON (AP)—Ahmed Mohamed, the Texas teenager arrested after a homemade clock he brought to school was mistaken for a bomb, capped a whirlwind month with a visit to the White House on Monday.

Ahmed got a personal invitation from President Barack Obama for “Astronomy Night.” The two met and chatted briefly during Monday night’s event.

Earlier Monday, Ahmed said he was grateful for the president’s support and said he’s OK with the nickname that so many have given him over the past few weeks—“clock kid.”

He said the lesson of his experience is: “Don’t judge a person by the way they look. Always judge them by their heart.”

Last month, Ahmed brought the clock to his school to show a teacher, but another teacher thought it could be a bomb. The school contacted police, who ultimately chose not to charge Ahmed with having a hoax bomb, though he was suspended from school.

Obama subsequently Tweeted an invitation to Ahmed and said the U.S. should inspire more kids like him to enjoy science.

Ahmed’s family is looking at several options for a new school. He hopes to eventually go to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and become an engineer.

The White House invitation



AP
John M. Grunsfeld, left, NASA's Associate Administrator for the Science Mission Directorate, takes a photo with Ahmed Mohamed, right, the Texas teenager arrested after a homemade clock he brought to school was mistaken for a bomb during the second-ever White House Astronomy Night on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, Monday, Oct. 19, 2015.

when Obama waded out toward the audience to shake hands with visitors after his speech.

Obama told the crowd that NASA was developing the capabilities to send humans to Mars in the 2030s.

“That means some of the young people who are here tonight might be working on that project,” Obama said. “Some of you might be on your way to Mars. America can do anything.”

The students visiting the South Lawn of the White House on Monday night got the chance to explore samples of rocks from the moon, Mars and various meteorites. They met with astronauts and peered at the planets and stars through telescopes.

brought some backlash. Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz complained that Obama didn’t give law enforcement officials the same respect he’s giving Ahmed. White House spokesman Josh Earnest said Monday the president has made clear in many settings the respect he has for law enforcement officers.

Ahmed said he has visited Google and Facebook, along with

other companies and institutions in recent weeks. He also visited with the president of Sudan, Omar al-Bashir, which has prompted some criticism because al-Bashir is wanted by International Crimi-

nal Court on charges of genocide and war crimes for atrocities linked to the Darfur fighting. Advisers deflected a question on that topic and instructed Ahmed to not answer.

Ahmed posed for pictures with NASA astronaut Alvin Drew shortly before Obama addressed the students on the South Lawn, and he got to introduce himself to the president

Obama administration backs bill to reduce prison time

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration on Monday expressed support for bipartisan Senate legislation that would reduce prison sentences for some nonviolent drug offenders, a rare issue where conservatives and liberals agree that the current system is overwhelmed and in desperate need of reform.

Deputy Attorney General Sally Quillian Yates told the Senate Judiciary Committee that the bill is “a good step” toward striking a balance in sentencing such offenders. The legislation would give judges the discretion to give sentences

that are less than federal mandatory minimums in some cases. It would eliminate mandatory life sentences for three-time, nonviolent drug offenders, reducing those minimum sentences to 25 years.

The aims of the bill are to make the sentencing system fairer, reduce recidivism and contain rising prison costs. The federal prison population has exploded since 1980, in part because of mandatory minimum sentences for nonviolent drug offenders.

Yates said the administration has similar goals.

“Because our laws cast too

broad a net, we have a hard time distinguishing between the cartel leader who needs to be in prison for a long time from the mope who doesn’t,” Yates said. “This comes with great costs—costs to operate our prison system, costs to our communities and families and costs to the public’s confidence in our system of justice.”

In a display of bipartisanship, the legislation is backed by some of the most powerful senators, including Senate Judiciary Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, and the top Democrat on the panel, Vermont Sen. Patrick Leahy.

Texas Sen. John Cornyn, the No. 2 Republican in the Senate, and Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin, the No. 2 Democrat, are also supporters.

The bill is a compromise. While some of the Democrats wanted to eliminate mandatory minimums, Republicans like Grassley were concerned that reducing them could let dangerous criminals go free. Partly to placate some of those conservatives, the Senate legislation would create two new mandatory minimums for some charges related to domestic violence and terrorism.

US appeals court upholds gun laws after Newtown massacre

NEW YORK (AP)—Gun control laws passed in New York and Connecticut to ban possession of semi-automatic weapons and large-capacity magazines after the 2012 massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School were mostly upheld Monday by a federal appeals court decision that a gun group vowed to appeal.

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan found core parts of the laws did not violate the Second Amendment because there was a substantial relationship between bans on assault weapons and large-capacity magazines and the “important—indeed, compelling—state interest in controlling crime.”

“When used, these weapons tend to result in more numerous wounds, more serious wounds, and more victims. These weapons are disproportionately used in crime, and particularly in criminal mass shootings,” according to the ruling written by Circuit Judge Jose A. Cabranes. “They are also disproportionately used to kill law enforcement officers.”

The three-judge panel noted that the Newtown, Connecticut, shooting in December 2012 occurred when 154 rounds were

fired in less than five minutes, killing 20 first-graders and six educators and renewing a nationwide discussion on the role of guns in America and how to diminish the threat of large-scale shootings.

But the court found Connecticut’s ban on a non-semi-automatic Remington 7615 unconstitutional. And it said a seven-round load limit in New York could not be imposed even as it upheld other bans on magazines.

“Like assault weapons, large-capacity magazines result in ‘more shots fired, persons wounded, and wounds per victim than do other gun attacks,’” the court said.

Tom King, president of the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association and a lead plaintiff, said his group—the New York affiliate of the National Rifle Association—will appeal to the Supreme Court, which could take up the case with recent rulings on state gun control laws.

“It wasn’t a surprise. We expected it,” he said.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman and Connecticut Attorney General George Jepsen praised the ruling.

ACROSS THE NATION

Police say father meant to drive family into Arizona lake

PHOENIX (AP)—The deaths of two adults and three young children who were in an SUV that plunged into an Arizona lake are being investigated as a murder-suicide as police said Monday that the father of the youngsters deliberately drove the vehicle into the water. Police spokesman Lt. Mike Pooley said 27-year-old Glenn Edward Baxter purposefully drove himself, his estranged wife and their children into Tempe Town Lake just after midnight Sunday. A grainy surveillance video from a nearby condominium complex showed the car being driven into the lake, Pooley said a news conference Monday night. He said

the video shows Baxter getting out of the SUV, walking down to the lake, then getting back in the driver’s seat and driving the vehicle “at a high rate of speed” before it hits a curb and flips over into the water.

6 fires at St. Louis-area churches under investigation

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Someone has been setting fire to predominantly black churches in the St. Louis area, and investigators are trying to determine if the arsonist is targeting either religion or race. Investigators have no suspects or motives. But the possibility of a hate crime—for religious or racial reasons—is part of the dynamic of the investigation, St. Louis Fire Capt. Garon Mosby

said. The blazes have happened in an area still reeling from the shooting death of 18-year-old Michael Brown last year by Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson and a grand jury’s subsequent decision not to charge Wilson. Brown, who was black, was unarmed when he was shot by Wilson, who is white.

Baltimore police commissioner must lead city still reeling

BALTIMORE (AP)—Now confirmed as the permanent police commissioner for Baltimore, Kevin Davis is tasked with ushering a city still reeling from protests, rioting and a record-breaking spike in violence through one of the most high-profile criminal cases in the city’s history. Six months

since Freddie Gray’s death, the City Council on Monday confirmed Davis as the city’s permanent police commissioner at an evening meeting. The position comes with a five-year contract and a \$200,000 annual salary. It also comes with a host of troubles. Trials are slated to begin in November for six officers charged in the death of Gray, a 25-year-old black man who died a week after suffering a spinal injury in the back of a police van. Gray’s death prompted near-daily and largely peaceful protests that drew thousands. But on the day of Gray’s funeral, looters set trash cans on fire and smashed the windows of businesses, causing millions of dollars in damage and shaking the city’s political and social foundation.

Asia

Typhoon leaves 11 dead, Filipino villagers saved from flood

CABANATUAN, Philippines (AP)—Army, police and civilian volunteers rushed Monday to rescue hundreds of villagers trapped in their flooded homes and on rooftops in a northern Philippine province battered by slow-moving Typhoon Koppu, officials said.

The typhoon blew ashore into northeastern Aurora province early Sunday, leaving at least 11 dead, forcing more than 65,000 villagers from their homes, and leaving nine provinces without electricity. By Monday afternoon, Koppu had weakened into a tropical storm over Ilocos Norte province with winds of 105 kilometers (65 miles) per hour and gusts of up to 135 kph (84 mph).

Several of the affected provinces, led by Nueva Ecija, were inundated by floods that swelled rivers and cascaded down mountains, trapping villagers in their homes, said Nigel Lontoc of the Office of Civil Defense.

"There were people who got trapped by the flood on their roofs, some were rescued already," Vice Mayor Henry Velarde of Nueva Ecija's Jaen town told The Associated Press by telephone, adding that about



Residents wade through floodwaters brought about by Typhoon Koppu at Zaragosa township, Nueva Ecija province, north of Manila, Philippines Monday, Oct. 19, 2015.

80 percent of 27 villages in his farming town of more than 45,000 people were inundated by flood.

When a flooded river swamped the villages, residents scrambled to safety but many failed to save their poultry and farm animals. Out of more than 5,000 ducks, for example, only about 1,000 were saved and many rice crops ready to be

harvested in a few weeks turned into a muddy waste, he said.

"Our rice farms looked like it was ran over by a giant flat iron," Velarde said. "All the rice stalks were flattened in one direction."

Hundreds of soldiers, police

and volunteers have converged on Nueva Ecija, a landlocked, rice-growing province in the heart of Luzon island, to help villagers whose homes had been flooded, said Lontoc.

Erwin Jacinto, a 37-year-old resident of Nueva Ecija's Santa



Rosa town, said the flooding turned his farmland into "nothing but mud."

Jacinto spoke from atop a high bridge where dozens of farmers stayed in the open overnight with their families, and their pigs, goats and chickens.

At least 11 people have died. One man was buried by a landslide while checking his farm on Sunday in the mountain town of Bakun in Benguet province. Two men drowned in Nueva Ecija, while a 14-year-old boy was killed when a tree branch fell on his family's shanty in suburban Quezon city in metropolitan Manila.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Bomb planted on Pakistani bus kills 11

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—Pakistani officials say a bomb planted on a passenger bus in the southwestern city of Quetta killed 11 passengers and wounded another 23. Home Secretary Akber Durrani says the bus was traveling from the city center to the nearby town of Saryab when the bomb went off Monday. He says investigators believe the explosives were planted inside the bus. Police officer Imtiaz Shah says a timed explosive device was used in the attack, and that the bus was carrying around 50 passengers. No one has claimed responsibility for the blast. Quetta is the capital of Baluchistan province, which has been the scene of a low-level insurgency by Baloch separatist groups. Islamic militants also operate in the province.

Aussie tourists harassed in India for Hindu goddess tattoo

BANGALORE, India (AP)—An Australian couple has said they were harassed at a restaurant in southern India by people who objected to a tattoo of a Hindu goddess on the man's leg. A crowd gathered around Matt Keith and his girlfriend while they were having lunch Saturday in Bangalore, saying the tattoo on the

man's shin offended their religion. Keith said in a Facebook post that police took them to a police station where he was forced to write a letter of apology before they were allowed to leave. Keith said he had studied in a school in southern India some years ago. "I love India which is why we came back to visit," he said. "We have heard about the growing Hindu nationalism, but nothing justifies the way we were treated. I love Hinduism," he said.

Journalist, others held over case of Chinese spiritual guide

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese state media say a policeman and a journalist have been detained over the leaking of documents in the case of a spiritual guide linked to a disgraced official and others. The Xinhua News Agency says the policeman, identified only by his surname, Zhong, and a journalist surnamed Liu are under investigation for bribe taking. It says the ex-wife and a former lover of spiritual master Wang Lin are suspected of colluding with them to leak documents that could help Wang's case. Wang claims to have supernatural powers as a master of qigong, but was arrested in August and charged with illegal detention in the kidnapping and murder of a former acolyte.

Afghan defense minister says Taliban hid in bombed hospital

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghanistan's acting defense minister said Monday that the Doctors Without Borders hospital bombed by U.S. forces in the northern city of Kunduz was being used by insurgents as a "safe place."

The hospital was bombed by a U.S. AC-130 gunship in the early hours of Oct. 3, killing at least 22 people and wounding many more. The main building was destroyed and the hospital has been shut down.

"That was a place they wanted to use as a safe place because everybody knows that our security forces and international security forces were very careful

not to do anything with a hospital," Defense Minister Masoom Stanekzai told The Associated Press, adding that a Taliban flag had been mounted on one of the hospital's walls.

Doctors Without Borders, also known by its French acronym MSF, has repeatedly denied that Taliban fighters were present in the hospital compound at the time of the attack.

"Every staff member in Kunduz working for MSF has repeatedly reported to us that there were no armed people in the hospital at the time of the bombing," Kate Stegeman, MSF's communications direc-

tor in Afghanistan, said Monday: The group said no staff had reported a Taliban flag on any wall of the compound.

MSF has acknowledged that it treated wounded Taliban fighters at the Kunduz hospital, but it insists no weapons were allowed in. Afghans who worked there have told the AP that no one was firing from within.

But Stanekzai insisted that "the compound was being used by people who were fighting there, whether it was Taliban or ISI or whoever they were," referring to Pakistan's powerful Inter-Services Intelligence agency, long accused by Kabul of supporting the

Taliban. "If the fighting was not coming from there, that kind of a mistake will never happen."

Taliban fighters seized Kunduz on Sept. 28 in a multi-pronged surprise attack. Government forces launched a counteroffensive three days later and were eventually able to drive the insurgents out.

The hospital was bombed repeatedly just after 2 a.m. on Oct. 3. President Barack Obama apologized for the bombing and the commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, Gen. John F. Campbell, said it was a mistake. He said the airstrike had been called in by Afghan forces.

S. Koreans travel to North to reunite with war-divided kin

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Hundreds of South Koreans crossed the border to the North on Tuesday for emotional three-day reunions with family members most hadn't heard from since the war between the countries more than 60 years ago.

About 390 South Koreans, some in wheelchairs, arrived Tuesday morning at an immigration office in Goseong, a South Korean town on the world's most heavily fortified border.

Lee Dong-im, 94, who is to be reunited with her brother-in-law in the North, said she's "choked with tears" just talking

about him. "I don't know how I will feel when I meet him. I will only know that when I actually see him," she said.

The elderly South Koreans said they were taking long johns, medicine, parkas, calligraphy works and cash with them to give to their family members in the North as presents.

They will meet with their children, siblings, spouses and other relatives through Thursday. About 140 North Koreans were expected to show up, according to Seoul's Unification Ministry.

In a second round, from Sat-

urday until Monday, about 250 South Koreans are to visit the mountain resort to reunite with about 190 North Korean relatives, the Unification Ministry said.

The reunions, the first since February of last year, are a poignant yet bitter reminder that the Korean Peninsula is still in a technical state of war because the 1950-53 fighting ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. The Koreans bar ordinary citizens from visiting relatives living on the other side of the border and even from exchanging letters, phone calls and emails without government permission.

The rivals in August agreed to resume family reunions during talks to end a standoff caused when land mine blasts blamed on Pyongyang maimed two South Korean soldiers. They have a history of failing to follow through with cooperation projects, but these reunions are happening because North Korea didn't go ahead with threats to conduct a satellite launch earlier this month. The launch would have likely canceled the reunions because Seoul and Washington see such firings as cover for banned tests of long-range missile technology.

World

Saudi Arabia hajj disaster death toll at least 2,177

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—The crush and stampede that struck the hajj last month in Saudi Arabia killed at least 2,177 pilgrims, a new Associated Press tally showed Monday, after officials in the kingdom met to discuss the tragedy.

The toll keeps rising from the Sept. 24 disaster outside Mecca as individual countries identify bodies and work to determine the whereabouts of hundreds of pilgrims still missing. The official Saudi toll of 769 people killed and 934 injured has not changed since Sept. 26, and officials have yet to address the discrepancy.

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Naif bin Abdul Aziz, who is also the kingdom's interior minister, oversaw a meeting late Sunday about the disaster in Mina, according to the official Saudi Press Agency. The agency's report did not mention any official response to the rising death toll.

"The crown prince was reassured on the progress of the investigations," the SPA report said. "He directed the committee's members to continue their efforts to find the causes of the accident, praying to Allah Almighty to accept the martyrs and wishing the injured a speedy recovery."



AP
In this Thursday, Sept. 24, 2015 file photo, a Muslim pilgrim walks through the site where dead bodies are gathered in Mina, Saudi Arabia during the annual hajj pilgrimage.

King Salman ordered the investigation into the disaster, the deadliest in the history of the annual pilgrimage. It came after a crane collapse in Mecca earlier that month killed 111 worshippers, and the twin disasters marred the first hajj to be overseen by the king since he ascended to the throne at the

start of this year.

The Saudi king holds the title of "Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques," and the monarchy's supervision of the hajj is a source of great prestige in the Muslim world. Riyadh has rejected a suggestion by Shiite power Iran, its main regional rival, to have an independent

body take over planning and administering the five-day hajj pilgrimage, which is required of all able-bodied Muslims once in their lifetimes.

Iran has repeatedly blamed the disaster on the Saudi royal family, accusing it of mismanagement and of covering up the real death toll, which Tehran

says exceeds 4,700, without providing evidence.

"The lying and hypercritical bodies, which claim to (be promoting) human rights, as well

as the Western governments, which sometimes make great fuss over the death of a single person, remained dead silent in this incident in favor of their allied government," Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said Monday, according to a transcript on his website.

"If they were sincere, these self-proclaimed advocates of human rights should have demanded accountability, compensation, guarantee for non-recurrence and punishment for the perpetrators of this catastrophe."

Iran and Saudi Arabia are deeply divided on a host of regional issues and back opposite sides in the wars in Syria and Yemen, where a Saudi-led coalition has been at war with Iran-backed Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, since March.

Fatal beating of Eritrean prompts soul-searching in Israel

JERUSALEM (AP)—The death of an Eritrean migrant who was shot and beaten by a mob that mistakenly believed he was a Palestinian attacker set off a round of soul-searching Monday amid the jittery atmosphere sweeping Israel in a wave of unrest.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu condemned the vigilantism. Some critics accused Israel's leaders of fostering the charged climate, while others called for the swift prosecution of the crazed mob.

"It is a disgrace to Israeli society, and those that carried out this lynching need to be found and brought to justice," said Yaakov Amidror, Netanyahu's former national security adviser.

"Even if it was the terrorist himself, by the way, after he was shot, after he was neutralized and lying on the floor, you need to be an animal to torment him," he told Israel Radio.

Nine Israelis have been killed in the past month in the attacks, mostly stabbings, on city streets. At least 41 Palestinians

have been killed—including 20 identified by Israeli authorities as attackers; the rest were slain in clashes with Israeli forces.

Amid the seemingly random attacks, Israelis have stocked up on mace and pepper spray, and some public officials are openly carrying personal weapons and encouraging the public to do the same. Security has been increased, and especially in Jerusalem.

The violence has led to fear and sometimes outright panic.

Following an attack at Jeru-

salem's bus station last week, a swarm of security forces and armed civilians ran along a central road in search of a second assailant following a false alarm. Elsewhere, an Israeli man stabbed a fellow Jew after mistaking his dark-skinned victim for an Arab. Palestinians in Jerusalem say they are afraid of being shot if perceived to be a threat.

But Sunday night's mob scene at the bus station in the southern city of Beersheba took things to a new level.

Obama administration over the Keystone XL pipeline.

The Trudeau victory will ease tensions with the U.S. Although Trudeau supports the Keystone pipeline, he argues relations should not hinge on the project. Harper has clashed with the Obama administration over other issues, including the recently reached Iran nuclear deal.

Trudeau's opponents pilloried him as too inexperienced, but Trudeau embraced his boyish image on Election Day. Sporting jeans and a varsity letter jacket, he posed for a photo standing on the thighs of two his colleagues to make a cheerleading pyramid, his campaign plane in the backdrop with "Trudeau 2015" painted in large red letters.

Son of late PM Pierre Trudeau becomes Canada's new PM

TORONTO (AP)—Canadians voted for a sharp change in their government Monday, resoundingly ending Conservative Stephen Harper's attempt to shift the nation to the right and returning a legendary name for liberals, Trudeau, to the prime minister's office.

Justin Trudeau, the son of late Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, became Canada's new prime minister after his Liberal Party won a majority of Parliament's 338 seats.

Trudeau, tall and trim at 43, channels the star power—if not quite the political heft—of his father, who swept to power in 1968 on a wave of support dubbed "Trudeaumania."

Pierre Trudeau, who was

prime minister until 1984 with a short interruption, remains one of the few Canadian politicians known in America, his charisma often drawing comparisons to John F. Kennedy. A bachelor when he became prime minister, he dated actresses Barbra Streisand and Kim Cattrall.

Justin Trudeau, a former school teacher and member of Parliament since 2008, becomes the second youngest prime minister in Canadian history.

Trudeau, who has re-energized the Liberal Party since its devastating electoral losses four years ago, promises to raise taxes on the rich and run deficits for three



Trudeau

years to boost government spending. His late father, who took office in 1968 and led Canada for most of the next 16 years, is a storied name in Canadian history, responsible for the country's version of the bill of rights.

"We have a chance to bring real change to Canada and bring an end to the Harper decade," Trudeau said in Harper's adopted home province of Alberta, traditionally a Conservative stronghold.

Canada has shifted to the center-right under Harper, who has lowered sales and corporate taxes, avoided climate change legislation and clashed with the

Thousands rush into Croatia as police reopen the Serbia border

BERKASOVO, Serbia (AP)—Thousands of people trying to reach the heart of Europe surged across Serbia's border into Croatia on Monday after authorities eased restrictions that had left them stranded for days in ankle-deep mud and rain.

The miserable wave of humanity left behind a field scattered with soaked blankets, mud-caked clothing and water-logged tents as they headed for Slovenia, the next obstacle to their quest to reach richer European Union nations via the Balkans.

Monday's surprise move allowed an estimated 3,000 more migrants to enter Croatia bound for its small Alpine neighbor, which also has been struggling to slow the flow of humanity across its frontiers—and faced another wave of trekkers seeking to reach Austria and Germany to the north.

"Without any announcement, the borders opened. When the borders opened, everybody rushed," said Melita Sunjic, a spokeswoman for the U.N. refugee agency, who was stationed at the Serb-Croat border.

Many had discarded their mud-soaked socks and walked only in sandals or slippers through the ankle-deep muck in a driving rain, frigid winds and fog. Some who had lost limbs during the civil war in Syria were aided by friends

pushing their wheelchairs down a country lane that, since Saturday, had been blocked by Croat police.

Now the officers stood aside to permit asylum-seekers by the thousands to walk toward buses for transport north—where they would become Slovenia's problem.

Croatia's prime minister, Zoran Milanovic, said his country had hoped to minimize the flow of people following Hungary's decision to seal its border with Croatia, but conditions on the poorly sheltered Serb side of the border had quickly grown unbearable.

"It's apparent that this is no solution, so we will let them through. We will send them toward Slovenia," Milanovic said.

Aid workers handed out blue rain ponchos and bags of food to travelers, many of them slipping in the mud as they walked across the border. Officials on the Croat side planned to bus the newcomers either to a Croat refugee camp or—far more likely, given asylum seekers' reluctance to stop before reaching their desired destinations—to the Slovenian border.

Slovenia's Interior Ministry said some 5,000 people had reached its borders Monday, and most were allowed to enter, with at least 900 reaching Austria by the evening. Slovenia had vowed to let in no more than 2,500 migrants per day.

Focus

Clash

of narratives drives events in Holy Land

By **DAN PERRY**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The clashes between Israelis and Palestinians in the Holy Land are not just physical; the two sides cannot agree on what they see, how they got here, who is to blame or where they should go.

To many Israelis, the wave of knifings betrays a hatred of Jews by a Palestinian populace that is easily incited to violence by fanatics dreaming up conspiracy theories about Zionist plots to take over their sacred Jerusalem mosque.

To Palestinians, the violent rage of lone-wolf attackers is an inevitable consequence, a last resort, and just desserts given almost a half-century of Israeli occupation in the West Bank and east Jerusalem, after peace talks collapsed last year and Israelis then re-elected a prime minister who seems wedded to the status quo.

Where Israelis see attackers killed in self-defense against what headlines call the “wave of terrorism,” Palestinians tend to see martyrs sacrificing themselves to fight the unacceptable predicament of their oppressed and humiliated people.

The clashing narratives share a deep-rooted sense of vulnerability.

Israelis are deeply affected by the memory of the Nazi slaughter of 6 million Jews during World War II. The country that emerged from that disaster

is surrounded by potential enemies. They look at the map, feel small, and grow peeved at the fuss made about their relatively modest conquest of a few thousand square kilometers, one of many in history.

The Palestinians call Israel’s 1948 “War of Independence” the “naqba,” meaning catastrophe. Some 600,000 of their number left what became the Jewish state, with some expelled and others fleeing. The refugees’ descendants now number in the millions. They are a people who have often felt unwelcome by fellow Arabs, in some cases confined to shantytown “camps,” as in Syria, and denied basic rights, as in Lebanon.

Palestinians tend to ignore that the Arab side rejected the 1947 United Nations partition plan for mandatory Palestine—which the Jews accepted.

Of the Palestinians who did not leave the Holy Land, there are currently four distinct groups, each with their own miseries and grievances:

■ About 1.7 million “Arab Israeli” citizens in Israel proper can vote and in theory have equal rights. But they are poorer, disadvantaged and angered by reminders of second-class status like a national anthem that romanticizes Jewish yearning for Zion. Many have assimilated and seem to appreciate the advantages of prosperous and modern Israel, yet some have participated in the knife attacks.

■ Some 300,000 Palestinians live in east Jerusalem,

which was occupied by Israel in 1967, along with the West Bank and Gaza, but unlike those areas was annexed. They have the right to become citizens, but few have chosen this, fearing it would legitimize Israel’s claim to the city. Instead, most live as “residents” with the right to work and travel freely, but who can under various circumstances find themselves losing their right to remain.

Palestinian neighborhoods in east Jerusalem suffer from a lack of services and schools, along with poor infrastructure, though residents are free to wander from these ramshackle areas to jobs in Jewish west Jerusalem, which Israel is constantly trying to develop and improve. Israel’s separation barrier has cut many of them off from their hinterland in the West Bank, while those behind the barrier are disconnected from the heart of the city. Palestinians from east Jerusalem have been the driving force of the knife attacks, and as a result, their status has grown even more precarious, with Israel putting up roadblocks that constrict travel in and out of their neighborhoods.

■ More than 2 million Palestinians live in the surrounding West Bank, which from 1948 to 1967 was held by Jordan, like east Jerusalem. They live mostly in a maze of autonomous zones surrounded and dominated by the Israeli army. With little control over their travel, they observe helplessly the constant expansion of Jewish settlements in the occupied land between their

disconnected areas. The settlers have disproportionate water rights and live under a separate legal system; they enjoy favored funding and can vote as part of Israel’s democracy, while the Palestinians endure strict security measures—without which the settlers might indeed come under constant attack.

Israel cannot decide what to do about this extraordinary situation. Despite occupying and settling the West Bank with Jews for almost 50 years, it has not annexed it for fear of having to officially absorb the millions of Palestinians into its democratic system. While these Palestinians are not at the center of the current wave, in some cases they have protested and attacked soldiers and settlers. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, while being careful not to condemn the stabblings for fear of appearing too close to Israel, has nonetheless instructed his security forces behind the scenes to try to calm the situation.

■ Another 2 million Palestinians live in Gaza, an enclave that between 1948 and 1967 was held by Egypt. The area is squeezed between Israel and Egypt and ruled by the Islamic militant group Hamas as a theocratic police state where women are subjugated, dissent is punished, and alcohol is banned. They are cut off from Israel but feel occupied nonetheless because they are fenced in—even by Egypt to the south—and Israel controls the skies and seas. Several have been killed and

injured lately in protests at the border.

Sporadic peace talks over the past two decades have failed to progress beyond the autonomy arrangements of the 1990s. The tangle is too tight and the sides cannot agree on the terms of divorce—or even on what happened in the talks.

Israelis feel that past leaders who in vain offered the Palestinians a state in Gaza and almost all the West Bank with a foothold in Jerusalem—in 2001 and 2008—were acting in good faith and exposed Palestinian intransigence. The Palestinians say they have already compromised by giving up their long-standing claim to land that now makes up Israel, and they are in no mood for accepting less than all the land occupied in 1967. They also have a host of explanations for what many around the world see as missed opportunities that may not come again. Some say Israeli offers were not as serious as leaders have claimed, as proved by continued settlement-building.

The world community mostly considers Israel to be in violation of accepted norms by changing the status quo in occupied territories through these settlements, and the disproportionate death toll among Palestinians in bouts of violence also draws fire. But despite the global hectoring, Israel has not been truly punished: it has a mighty alliance with the U.S., favored trading status with Europe, growing relations with Asia and a per capita gross domestic product to rival Britain’s.

In this situation, many Israelis prefer to ignore the Palestinians, most of whom are beyond fences in areas Israelis rarely visit.

Many believe the Arab world is not ready for democracy—the failures of the Arab Spring hardly negate such a thesis—and the Palestinians should be happy with their lot compared with the brutal dictatorships and murderous chaos that have typified other corners of the Middle East, past and present.

Israelis also feel that the Palestinians are being incited—whether by Gaza preachers shouting at the masses to “stab, stab, stab,” or by politicians claiming, with meager basis if any, that the desires of Israeli fanatics to destroy the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem or alter the status quo there are secretly the official Israeli policy as well. Palestinians tend to dismiss these things as secondary to a justifiable anger that is consuming their hopeless youth, who undeniably have also gotten worked up through inflammatory videos making their way around Facebook.

On both sides there is a minority that watches the violence in despair—arguably more so in Israel, with its more individualistic society and culture of debate and introspection. To these more liberal Israelis, the apparently perpetual occupation of the Palestinians is a moral stain that also, by tying Israel inexorably to a Palestinian population equal to its 6 million Jews, contains the seeds of self-inflicted ruin.

In this Oct. 25, 2009 file photo, Palestinian youths hurl stones during clashes with Israeli police in Jerusalem’s Old City. Stone-throwing is becoming commonplace in Jerusalem amid a wave of Palestinian unrest, leading to calls for a harsh crackdown and adding to tensions over access to a key holy site. But the outbursts appear to be decentralized and unorganized, and any tough new measures risk setting off another full-fledged conflict.

AP

Good Housekeeping

Come clean on these common washing machine mistakes

By KALEY BELAKOVICH
ANGIE'S LIST

Unless you possess a never-ending supply of money and never wear the same outfit twice, laundry is an essential part of life. While the sudsy concept may seem simple enough, some of us make small mistakes that may hurt the washing machine over time. Prevent premature calls to appliance repair technicians by avoiding these user errors.

Not emptying your pockets

Think that destroyed \$20 bill is the only reason it's a bad idea not to empty your pockets before doing laundry? Think again. Non-clothing objects in the washer can clog the water drain. Accidentally leave a piece of gum or tissue behind, and you'll have twice the mess to clean, not to mention the damage it can do to the inner



workings of the washer.

Overloading washer

While you may think jamming

just one more pair of jeans in with that full load won't hurt anything, overstuffing your washer makes the machine

work too hard.

Overloading the washer puts unnecessary wear on it and eats up energy. In top-

Shrubby, branches or debris on or near the system can hinder its overall performance. However, an awning or tree over the unit provides shade, which cuts energy consumption.

8. Plant a tree

Not only are you helping save the planet, but the shade can provide relief on cooling costs.

9. Check for air leaks

Make sure no air is getting through the weather stripping around the windows, doors or attic. Seal any areas where you find leaks.

10. Turn down the heat

Lower your water heater base temperature to 120 degrees. Wash your clothes in cold or warm water when possible, and only wash when you have a full load. Turn off the heat dry option on your dishwasher.

Consult a highly rated, licensed electrician if you have questions about reducing your electric bill. You may also want to consider an energy efficiency home audit to see if additional home maintenance might be needed to save on future energy bills.

loading machines, the central agitator needs room to do its job. Plus, if you pack too many clothes into the machine, some detergent residue could be left behind—which will attract more dirt next time you wear the clothes.

Forgetting to clean out dispensers

When you're finished washing a load of laundry, wipe down the detergent and fabric softener dispensers. If you don't, the build-up could cause a clog.

ELDON LINDSAY/ANGIE'S LIST/TNS
It's a bad idea to stuff the washer with a jumbo load of laundry.

Using too much detergent

More is not always better. Not only will using excess soap leave your clothes sudsy and stiff, it will also wear on your machine. Plus, using too much soap leads to more suds, which could cause your washer to overflow. Have a high efficiency washer? They require even less soap to wash clothing properly, so be sure to skimp on the detergent and only use soaps marked safe for HE washers.

Not taking clothes out right away

Forgetting your clothes in the washing machine overnight or waiting a while to transfer them to the dryer or line may seem harmless, but lingering moisture provides the ideal environment for mold and mildew to grow and will lead to a foul-smelling machine and laundry. It's also a good idea to leave the washer lid open after you unload it, so the inside can dry out.

Kaley Belakovich is a reporter at Angie's List, a trusted provider of local consumer reviews and an online marketplace of services from top-rated providers.

10 tips to save on your electric bill

By STEPHANIE FIGY
ANGIE'S LIST

Do you suffer from sticker shock when you see your monthly electric bill? No matter what your financial situation, paying bills is about as much fun as a root canal. Read on for simple ways to lower your electric bill.

1. Close the curtains

During the summer, close curtains on the sunny side of your house during the day. Alternately, leave them open during a sunny day in the winter.

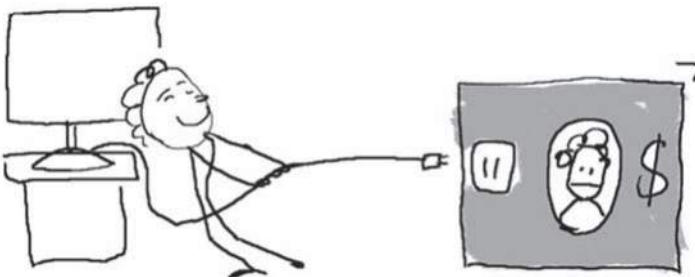
2. Don't forget annual heating and A/C maintenance

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, heating and cooling your home uses more energy than any other system, typically making up 54 percent of your electric bill. Ensure your systems are running at their highest efficiency by hiring highly rated heating and A/C technicians to perform annual cleanings and checkups.

Also, be sure to change out your air filters.

3. Consider unplugging

You might think your appliances aren't using energy when they're turned off, but this isn't always the case. To avoid using what's called vampire power,



unplug devices when not in use. If the outlets aren't easily accessible, plug devices into a power strip that you can switch off and on when needed.

4. Upgrade outdated appliances

If your systems are old, consider updating to more energy efficient products. The energy savings and tax rebates available

prove the investment's worth.

5. Change your light bulbs

Switching to compact fluorescent or light-emitting diode bulbs provides drastic energy savings. In fact, LED bulbs are 80 percent more efficient than incandescent lighting, according to the U.S.

Department of Energy.

6. Program your thermostat

Set your thermostat at a comfortable temperature in the winter and summer, but program it to raise and lower the temperature when you're away from your home or sleeping to save on heating and cooling costs.

7. Keep your HVAC unit clear of debris

of paint left, take the lid off and let it dry out until it becomes hard. Make sure to keep it out of the reach of children and pets. "Then it's OK to throw away in the trash," says Greg Mrakich, owner of Greg Mrakich Painting in Indianapolis.

In California, where tossing paint is illegal, residents need to take leftovers to a paint retailer or hazardous waste drop-off. Also, don't try this with oil-based paints—too many fumes!

Mix paint in kitty litter

If there's more than a half-inch of latex paint left in the can, stir in cat litter or a paint-hardener compound you can purchase

Get covered on disposing of paint cans

By STACI GIORDULLO
ANGIE'S LIST

If you look in almost any homeowner's garage, you'll probably find a half-empty paint can or two. We know we can't pour the leftover paint down the drain—which would contaminate the water treatment systems—and we can't toss it in the trash without risking environmental damage and potential harm to the sanitation workers. So how do we get rid of old paint?

Take paint cans to a drop-off site

Spend some time locating your nearest hazardous waste

facility, and see if they accept paint. Or mark your calendar for any community "roundup" days, when temporary sites are set up for collection.

Some states, such as California, Connecticut, Oregon and Vermont, have paint stewardship laws that allow paint retailers to accept leftovers. The stores take leftover paint during regular business hours, making paint recycling and disposal much more convenient and safe. Similar legislation is expected to pass soon in Minnesota, Rhode Island and Maine.

Let it dry out

If there's less than a half-inch

from the hardware store. After you mix it in, let it sit in the open for a day and dry out. Then it's OK to toss it in the trash.

Donate it

"Sometimes local charities will want some of your good, leftover paints," says Joshua Abramson, chief solutionist for A Allbright Painting in Valencia, Calif. "Especially whites and off-white colors."

Another option for homeowners working with a painting contractor involves a little sweet-talking. "Ask nicely if he or she could clean out your paint locker at the end of the project!" says Michael Chism, president of highly rated Chism Brothers Painting in San Diego.

COMFORT FOOD

Whoopie Pies

This Pennsylvania Dutch favorite is not a pie at all but two cakelike chocolate cookies that are sandwiched together with a fluffy white filling. Our recipe has a marshmallow crème that's reminiscent of the filling in a Moon Pie.

Cookie dough:

2 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup milk
6 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted
1 large egg
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Marshmallow crème filling:
6 tablespoons butter or margarine, slightly softened
1 cup confectioners' sugar
1 jar (7 to 7 1/2 ounces) marshmallow crème
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1. Heat oven to 350 F. Grease two large cookie sheets.

2. Prepare Cookie Dough: In large bowl, with spoon, beat flour, sugar, cocoa, baking soda, salt, milk, butter, egg and vanilla until smooth.

3. Drop heaping tablespoons of dough 2 inches apart to form 12 cookies on each prepared cookie sheet. Bake until puffy and toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 12 to 14 minutes, rotating sheets between upper and lower oven racks halfway through baking. With wide spatula, transfer cookies to wire racks to cool.

4. When cookies are cool, prepare Marshmallow Crème Filling: In large bowl, with mixer at medium speed, beat butter until smooth. Reduce speed to low; gradually beat in confectioners' sugar. Beat in marshmallow crème and vanilla until smooth.

5. Spread 1 rounded tablespoon filling on flat side of 12 cookies. Top with remaining cookies, flat side down. Makes 12 whoopie pies.

* Each whoopie pie: About 365 calories, 14g total fat (8g saturated), 4g protein, 59g carbohydrate, 51mg cholesterol, 290mg sodium. For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipefinder/. (Hearst Communications, Inc.)

Life & Style

New 'Star Wars' trailer on 'Monday Night Football,' online

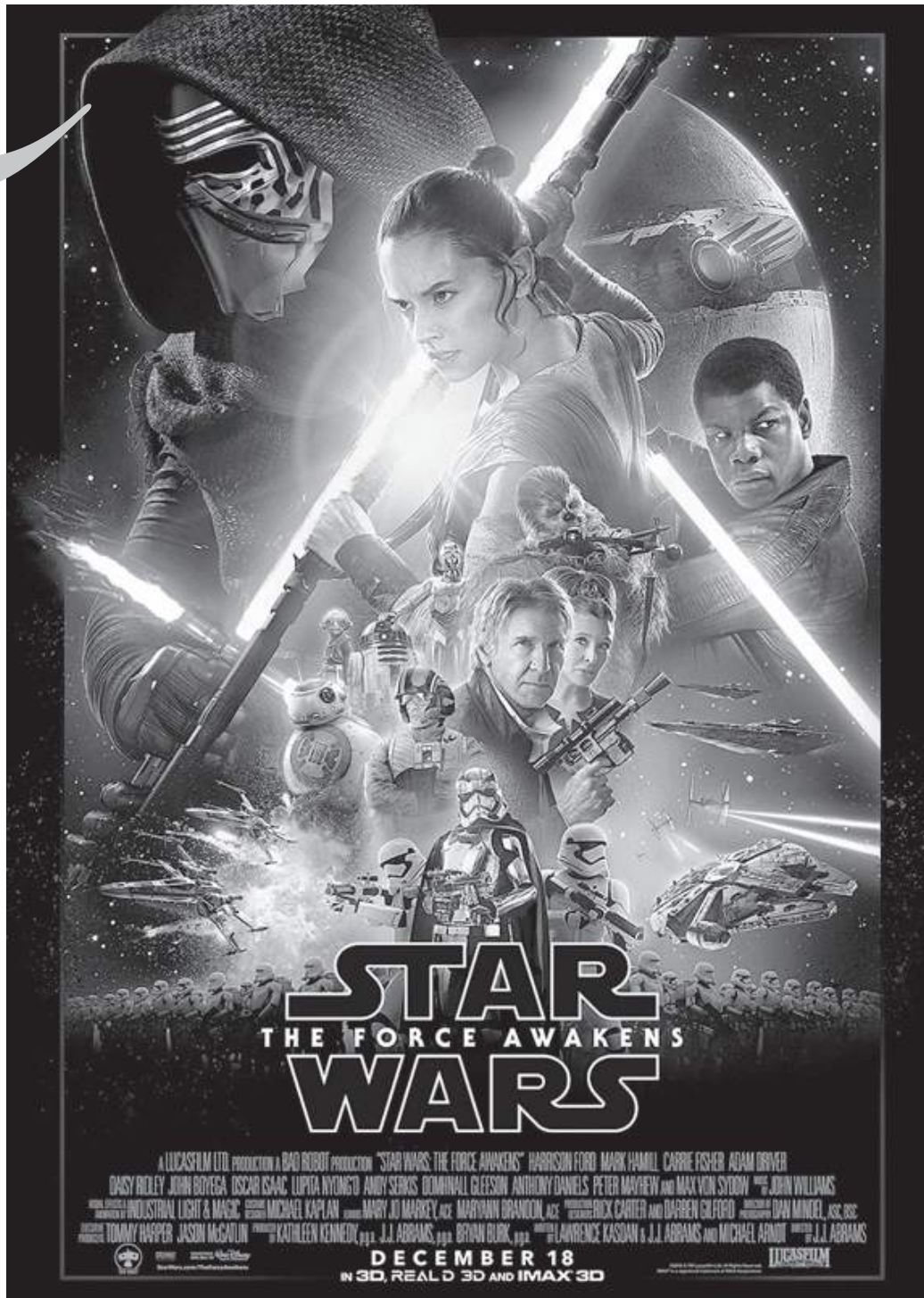
LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Giants/Eagles game took a backseat to “Monday Night Football’s” main event—the halftime premiere of a new “Star Wars: The Force Awakens” trailer. It also went online moments after.

The 2:35 minute spot offered teases into the backstories of the series’ newest characters, like John Boyega’s Finn, a stormtrooper who’s questioning his allegiances, Daisy Ridley’s scavenger Rey, seen exploring an old ship, and Adam Driver’s Darth Vader-obsessed Kylo Ren.

“The Force Awakens” takes place some 30 years after the events in “Return of the Jedi,” but the plot for director J.J. Abrams’ film has remained shrouded in secrecy. This latest spot gave a few tantalizing hints as to what might have transpired in those three decades. For one, the events of the original trilogy seem to have been turned into mythology for the younger generation. Harrison Ford’s Han Solo tells Rey and Finn that “it’s true...all of it.”

The trailer also gave fans their first look at Carrie Fisher who is reprising her role as Princess Leia. Luke Skywalker, portrayed again by Mark Hamill, has yet to be seen in full in any of the film’s advertisements and is suspiciously missing from the official poster, too.

Teasers and trailers have become events in and of themselves for “The Force Awakens,” one of the most anticipated movies of the year. The last premiered at a ticketed fan event in



This undated photo provided by Disney shows the poster for the new film, “Star Wars: The Force Awakens.” AP

Anaheim, Calif. to fan cheers has over 64 million views on YouTube to date. This latest outing was at least in part an experiment in corpo-

rate synergy. “Monday Night Football” airs on ESPN, which, like Lucasfilm, is a subsidiary of The Walt Disney Company. Many “Star Wars” fans who aren’t necessarily inclined to watch football tuned in to the game to wait for the trailer.

Tickets for the film, out Dec. 18, were supposed to go on sale immediately after the trailer played, but ended up being made available earlier in the day. Online ticketing sites like Fandango crashed amid the feverish demand and excitement to be among the first to see the film.

Disney, which acquired Lucasfilm in 2012, has been str-

ategically limited in its official marketing of “The Force Awakens”—the first in a new trilogy in the series. “Looper’s” Rian Johnson is directing Episode VIII for a May 2017 release and “Jurassic World’s” Colin Trevorrow is set for Episode IX for 2019.

Lucasfilm is also working on a series of stand-alone spinoff films set in the world of “Star Wars,” like “Rogue One,” about the rebels that steal the plans for the Death Star, set for December 2016.

But for now, all eyes are on “The Force Awakens,” which is expected to be one of the most successful films of all time.

Aging gangster accused of ‘Goodfellas’ heist goes on trial

NEW YORK (AP)—An aging gangster went on trial Monday on charges he was in on the \$6 million Lufthansa holdup in 1978, a legendary theft dramatized in the hit film “Goodfellas.”

The brazen armed robbery of cash and jewelry in the dead of night at a cargo terminal at Kennedy Airport was “the score of all scores” for Vincent Asaro and other mobsters of his generation, Assistant U.S. Attorney Lindsay Gerdes said in opening statements in federal court in Brooklyn.

Asaro, 80, teamed with heist mastermind, the late James “Jimmy the Gent” Burke—played by Robert De Niro in the 1990 Martin Scorsese film—“because he knew Burke was someone he could make money with,” Gerdes said. “Jimmy Burke and Vincent Asaro were true partners in crime.”

The prosecutor told jurors—who had been asked on questionnaires if they had seen “Goodfellas”—that Asaro became a real-life member of the Bonanno organized crime family in the 1970s, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. She also said he has the mob slogan “death without dishonor” tattooed on forearm.

“For him, the Mafia was literally the family business,” she said. “The defendant is a gangster through and through.”

Defense attorney Diane Ferrone countered by accusing the government of relying on the testimony of untrustworthy turncoat mobsters, including Asaro’s cousin, Gaspare Valenti. She labeled the cousin a con artist who became a paid government informant in the late 2000s and agreed to wear a wire to record their conversations.

“You shouldn’t believe him because his latest con victim is the United States government,” Ferrone said.

On Valenti and other government witnesses, she said, “When necessary, they lie to each other and they lie to save themselves. ... Once a liar, always a liar.”

Unlike Burke, Asaro was an obscure member of the Bonan-

nos with low-level mob-related convictions before his arrest last year. He became the latest mobster to fall prey to a breach in the Mafia’s once-sacred code of silence that has decimated the ranks of New York’s five Italian crime families.

The first witness, former Bonanno underboss Salvatore Vitale, gave the jury the rules of La Cosa Nostra including an important one he had broken: “If you meet with law enforcement, we have the right to kill you.”

Vitale testified how he was involved in 11 payback killings, and how he grew disillusioned after he was ordered to rub out a friend for being disrespectful to a higher-up.

“I was just tired of the life,” he said. “I was tired of the killing.”

Vitale testified that after the Lufthansa robbery, he saw Asaro deliver an attaché case to Asaro’s then-captain Joseph Massino. He said Massino opened the case to find it full of gold chains, telling Vitale, “This is from the Lufthansa score.”

After rising to boss of the family, Massino stunned the underworld by becoming the highest-ranking mobster to ever break the mob’s oath of omerta when he testified at the 2011 trial of his successor. He’s also expected to testify at the Asaro trial.

Prosecutors alleged that though Asaro didn’t participate directly in the Lufthansa robbery, he was given \$500,000 because the airport was considered Bonanno turf. They also say he was a degenerate gambler who blew much of it at the racetrack.

The defendant also is charged in the 1969 murder of a suspected law enforcement informant, Paul Katz, whose remains were found during an FBI dig in 2013 at a house once occupied by Burke. Asaro told his cousin that Burke “had killed Katz with a dog chain because they believed he was a ‘rat,’” the court papers said.

If convicted of racketeering conspiracy and other charges, Asaro faces a maximum sentence of life behind bars.

Sophia Loren: Retire? Never!

NEW YORK (AP)—Some things about the film business have changed for actresses in the more than five decades since Sophia Loren was first discovered, and some things have stayed exactly the same.

Take pay equity, for instance, and the reality that worthy actresses sometimes make less than their male counterparts.

“It never changed. It’s always the same. It’s always the same like before, but not only in the movies. Even in life sometimes, unfortunately,” Loren said on the red carpet Monday night before the nonprofit Americans for the Arts honored her at its National Arts Awards.

Loren received the Carolyn Clark Powers Lifetime Achievement Award, presented to her by director and choreographer Rob Marshall before a star-studded crowd that included Tony Bennett, Lady Gaga and artists Chuck Close and Jeff Koons.

Herbie Hancock and Gaga were also among the honorees, but it was Loren who stole hearts in a black

evening gown, accompanied by son Edoardo Ponti and daughter-in-law Sasha Alexander.

At 81, Loren still works when the mood strikes. The word retirement is not in her vocabulary.

“That’s terrible, the word retire. Never,” she said. “We start always like it was the beginning of a long career.”

With the onslaught of technology and the speed at which the world turns today, Loren said she enjoys embracing the “new” in life.

“Well I think you have to get accustomed to the new things that come out and try to run after them and try to be always living in a world that belongs to you, even though you have to learn many things more,” she explained.

What is Loren’s best advice for young actresses today?

“To take life seriously,” she said, “to do the right things and not to take life easily, as sometimes the girls, they do because they don’t have experience.”

She added: “They need good mothers, good parents.”



Sophia Loren attends the Americans for the Arts 2015 National Arts Awards at Cipriani 42nd Street on Monday, Oct. 19, 2015, in New York. AP

US appeals court rules in favor of Google's online library

NEW YORK (AP)—Google is not violating copyright laws by digitizing millions of books so it can provide small portions of them to the public, a federal appeals court ruled Friday in a decadelong dispute by authors worried that the project would spoil the market for their work.

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan agreed with a judge who concluded that the snippets Google showed customers from its database was a transformative use of the information and thus did not violate copyright laws.

Judge Denny Chin ruled in

November 2013 that Google's digitization of over 20 million books, mostly out-of-print titles, did not violate copyrights because the Mountain View, California-based company only showed short sections of the books in its database. Chin had said it would be difficult for anyone to read any of the works in their entirety by repeatedly entering different search requests.

In an opinion written by Judge Pierre N. Leval, the appeals court agreed, saying the snippet feature "substantially protects against its serving as

an effectively competing substitute for plaintiffs' books."

It added: "Snippet view, at best and after a large commitment of manpower, produces discontinuous, tiny fragments, amounting in the aggregate to no more than 16% of a book. This does not threaten the rights holders with any significant harm to the value of their copyrights or diminish their harvest of copyright revenue."

The three-judge appeals panel did acknowledge, though, that some book sales would likely be lost if someone were merely searching for a portion

of text to ascertain a fact.

The Authors Guild and various authors had challenged Google in 2005, contending that the digital book project violated their rights. Writers included Jim Bouton, author of the best-seller "Ball Four," Betty Miles, author of "The Trouble with Thirteen," and Joseph Goulden, author of "The Superlawyers: The Small and Powerful World of Great Washington Law Firms."

Google Inc. has made digital copies of tens of millions of books from major research libraries and established a

publicly available search function. It planned ultimately to scan over 100 million books, including material from the New York Public Library, Library of Congress and several major universities.

The appeals court said Google's profit motivation does not justify denial of something that overall enhances public knowledge.

"Many of the most universally accepted forms of fair use, such as news reporting and commentary, quotation in historical or analytic books,

reviews of books, and performances, as well as parody, are all normally done commercially for profit," the court noted.

The appeals panel said it recognized that libraries that had negotiated with Google to receive digital copies from the company might use them in an infringing manner. It said that could expose the libraries and Google to liability but called it "sheer speculation" to raise the issue now.

Lawyers did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

Oprah Winfrey goes on diet, gains Weight Watchers deal



In this Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2015, file photo, Oprah Winfrey attends the premiere of the Oprah Winfrey Network's (OWN) documentary series "Belief," at The TimesCenter in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—Oprah Winfrey, who has publicly struggled with her weight for decades, is going on a diet again. But this time she stands to gain a lot of money from her efforts.

Weight Watchers said Monday that it signed a five-year deal with the former talk show host. Winfrey, a co-owner of OWN: The Oprah Winfrey Network, is paying about \$43.2 million for a 10 percent stake in the weight loss company.

The deal is already paying off: Weight Watchers shares more than doubled after the partnership was announced, earning Winfrey about \$45 million on paper.

Winfrey will use the Weight Watchers mobile app and work with a personal coach, the company said. She has also agreed to let Weight Watchers use her name, image and likeness for its products and services. Additionally, she will make appearances on the company's behalf.

"Weight Watchers has given me the tools to begin to make the lasting shift that I and so many of us who are struggling

with weight have longed for," Winfrey said in a statement. "I believe in the program so much I decided to invest in the company and partner in its evolution."

Weight Watchers is no stranger to celebrities. It has paid singers Jessica Simpson and Jennifer Hudson to promote its plan. But the deal with Winfrey is a shift to focus on overall health and wellness, rather than just dropping pounds.

"We are expanding our purpose from focusing on weight loss alone to more broadly helping people lead a healthier, happier life," said Weight Watchers President and CEO Jim Chambers said in a statement.

The company has been hurt by the popularity of fitness trackers and other health apps. MyFitnessPal lets users track steps, workouts and the amount of calories they eat for free on its app. Buying a FitBit tracker unlocks similar free online tools. Weight Watchers charges for its online food tracking, and weekly meetings and weigh ins have been a hallmark of its plan. Its shares were down 73 percent for the year through Friday. The

company's earnings have fallen every year since 2011. To boost its earnings, the company announced \$100 million in cost cuts earlier this year.

Winfrey's weight has yo-yoed over the years, and she's been very open publicly about her struggles with dieting.

In fact, weight was a frequent subject of her talk show, which ended nearly five years ago after 25 years on the air. In 1988, a thin Winfrey famously walked out on stage wheeling 67 pounds of fat in a wagon, representing the weight she lost. But her weight has fluctuated over time.

Her weight was still an issue as "The Oprah Winfrey Show" came to an end. She told the TV interviewer Barbara Walters that one of her goals was to "make peace with the whole weight thing."

Since then, Winfrey has talked about being uncomfortable with being the subject on the cover of her magazine because of her weight gain.

Winfrey can now trade weight loss tips with her best friend, Gayle King. The host of

TV news program "CBS This Morning" told her Instagram followers five weeks ago that she joined Weight Watchers. Last week, King indicated in an Instagram post that she had lost more than seven pounds on the plan.

Representatives for Winfrey and King did not respond to requests for an interview.

Meanwhile, Weight Watchers is hoping to tap into Winfrey's ability to turn ordinary products into the latest trend.

A stamp of approval from Winfrey during her talk show was powerful. Books she recommended skyrocketed up best seller lists and products shown on her holiday gift guide episodes would sometimes sell out.

But it might be harder to get her message across now. "She has less contact with people on a daily basis," said Craig Garthwaite, an assistant professor of strategy at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. In 2012, for example, Winfrey relaunched her book club, but it doesn't hold the same power. "Most people don't know that it exists," said Garthwaite.

Besides the OWN network, Winfrey reaches fans through O, The Oprah Magazine and Oprah.com. She also has a strong social media following with more than 29 million followers on Twitter, 11 million on Facebook and 4 million on Instagram.

The Weight Watchers endorsement is a departure for Winfrey. Throughout her talk show reign, Winfrey did not make money off endorsements, Garthwaite said. Since leaving the talk show, she has also lent her name to Starbucks Corp., which sells Oprah-branded tea drinks.

Winfrey is buying about 6.4 million shares of Weight Watchers at \$6.79 per share. She will also receive options to buy an additional 5 percent of the company's fully diluted shares. She is also joining the company's board.

Shares of New York-based Weight Watchers International Inc. soared \$7.13, or 105 percent, to close at \$13.92 Monday.

Idaho tribe's casino sanctioned for hosting racy performance

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho

(AP)—Regulators have temporarily suspended an American Indian casino's liquor license after determining the Idaho venue hosted an all-male revue that featured simulated sex acts and outfits that were too revealing.

The Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort Hotel is prohibited from serving alcohol for 10 days after holding "HUNKS The Show," a traveling performance that includes stripping and dancing. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe, which operates the resort, also must pay a \$25,000 fine.

"Dancers with the show 'Hunks' created the problem, not with nudity but apparently with dance moves the Idaho liquor control board considers excessive," casino spokesman Bob Bostwick told The Spokesman-Review.

Bostwick said the dance group broke a state law that bans performers from simulating sex acts. The tribe in September agreed with the Idaho State Police Alcohol Beverage Control Division to the license suspension and fine.

"The dance group violated their contract, which stipulated that they would keep the show within the bounds under Idaho liquor laws," Bostwick said. "Still, it is the seller who is penalized."

Carl Disonell, booking agent and owner of the eight-man show, said the group does 250 performances a year around the country. He was surprised the January event in northern Idaho resulted in the casino's liquor license being suspended.

"It's a normal show," he said. "What people don't understand is it's really up for interpretation. If a guy pops his hips one time—'Oh, that's a sex act.'"

He said Idaho was the only place the show caused prob-

lems for a venue.

"It's like we're in the 1940s," he said. "It sounds to me like (inspectors) went there looking to fine the casino."

Idaho State Police spokeswoman Teresa Baker said there was no full nudity, but performers pushed the boundary too far and violated state law by showing too much buttocks.

As for simulated sex acts, she said, "anything is a matter of interpretation, but if you look at the statute it is clear."

The show is billed as the country's "hottest" all male revue with choreographed production numbers that include acrobatics, costume changes and vocal performances.

"The guys are good-looking and fit, and they are extremely personable," Disonell said.

Bostwick said the hotel-casino has served alcohol for about 20 years and has never before had a problem with its liquor license.

"We are always careful to ensure our guests are of legal age, and our staff is trained to monitor consumption," Bostwick said.

The suspension lasts from Nov. 1 through Nov. 10. During that time, guests must keep alcoholic beverages in their hotel rooms. "We will simply make the best of this temporary suspension," Bostwick said.

In a separate case in June, state officials penalized three Lewiston bars with a \$10,000 fine and 15-day liquor license suspension against their parent company, Weber Inc.

In that case, two undercover officers acted as patrons at an event advertised as the "Ultimate Males Las Vegas Style Strip Show," according to police documents. The officers reported witnessing activities that are prohibited at establishments licensed to sell beer, wine or alcohol.

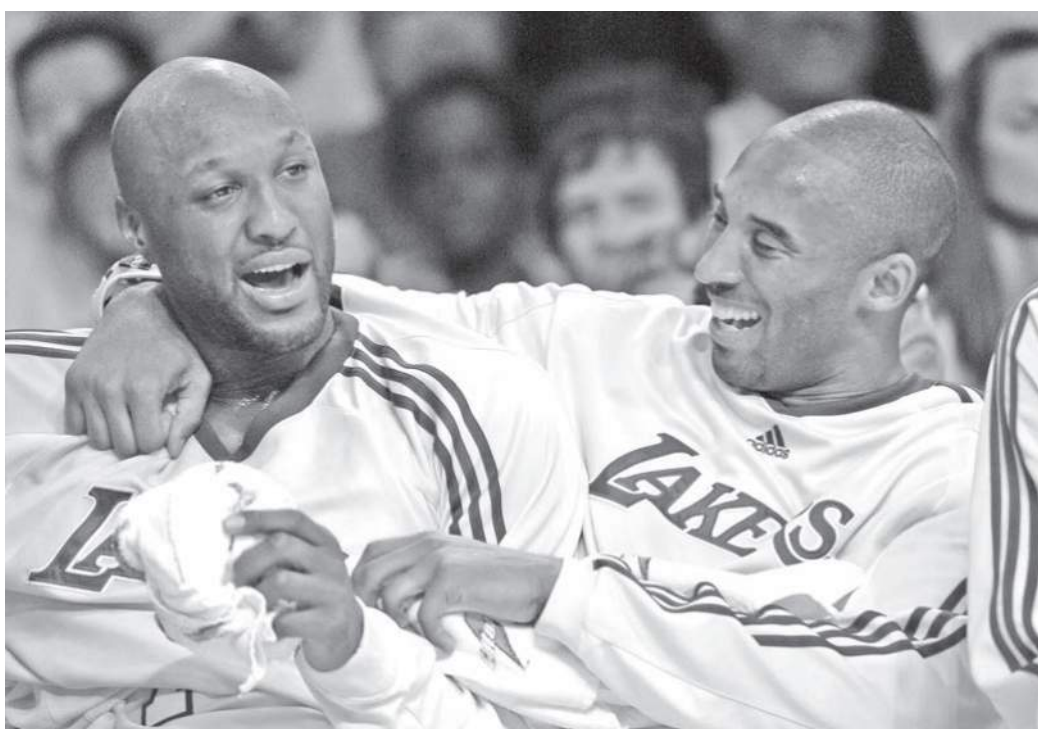
Ex-NBA star Lamar Odom is alert and improving, his aunt says

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Lamar Odom is alert and his condition is improving after the former NBA star was found unconscious at a Nevada brothel a week ago, his family said Monday.

Alvina Alston, publicist for Odom's aunt JaNean Mercer,

said the former reality-TV personality is undergoing testing, but there is no word yet on when he might be released from the hospital. Odom is overcoming "insurmountable obstacles" and defying the odds, Mercer said in a statement.

"Each day Lamar is getting



In this Nov. 18, 2008, file photo, Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant, right, talks with forward Lamar Odom after Odom fouled out against the Chicago Bulls during the second half of their NBA basketball game in Los Angeles.

stronger and reaching significant milestones in his recovery," the statement said.

Odom was found in extremely critical condition at the Love Ranch brothel in the rural com-

munity of Crystal, Nevada, on Oct. 13 and was hospitalized in Las Vegas. He regained consciousness and communicated for the first time Friday.

The brothel said workers

saw him drink alcohol and take supplements sold as "herbal Viagra." The Food and Drug Administration issued a warning in 2013 against one brand he took, Reload, after it was found to

contain sildenafil, the active ingredient in prescription Viagra.

He also told at least one of the women that he had done cocaine, but the brothel says it did not see him take any drugs or find any there.

Odom's family, including estranged wife Khloe Kardashian, rushed to Las Vegas to be by his side at the hospital. Friends, teammates and loved ones also have visited and posted requests for prayers on social media.

Love Ranch owner Dennis Hof has said that Odom arrived Oct. 10 for a four-day stay and spent \$75,000 on two women who accompanied him in a VIP suite.

Hof also said that Odom asked about a dozen women working there on Sunday to sign confidentiality agreements barring them from speaking about his visit.

Hof said no one has ever asked for such an agreement and that no confidentiality policy exists for the customers. However, the women who work there do sign an agreement with the brothel that prohibits them from speaking out about clients.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Daniel Craig and David Oyelowo to star in 'Othello' in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—A couple of big-time movie stars will be appearing off-Broadway next fall when Daniel Craig and David Oyelowo star in a production of William Shakespeare's "Othello" at New York Theatre Workshop. Sam Gold, a Tony-winner for "Fun Home" will direct the tragedy, with "Selma" star Oyelowo playing the title role and super spy 007 Craig as Iago. The show is slated for fall 2016 and additional casting will be announced later. Like Hamlet and Macbeth, Othello is a Shakespearean protagonist driven mad by suspicion and fear. In the play, Othello's trusted lieutenant spins a web to make him doubt his wife's fidelity. Craig plays James Bond in "Spectre" out next month and Oyelowo is next slated to co-star with Zoe Saldana in "Nina" about singer Nina Simone.

US college considers revoking Bill Cosby's honorary degree

AUGUSTA, Georgia (AP)—Paine College interim president says the university could become the next school to rescind an honorary degree awarded to Bill Cosby. Interim President Samuel Sullivan told the Augusta Chronicle that the school's board of trustees will vote on rescinding Cosby's 2003 honorary doctorate during a meeting next week. Paine College is located in Augusta, Georgia. Sullivan says numerous sexual assault allegations against the comedian have led the school's leadership to

consider revoking his degree. Baltimore's Goucher College and Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts, both announced this week that they had rescinded honorary degrees given to Cosby. Court documents unsealed in July show the 78-year-old Cosby admitting extramarital relationships with several women, some of whom accuse him of sexual assault. Cosby has never been charged with a crime.

Benedict Cumberbatch's Hamlet breaks a telecast record

NEW YORK (AP)—Benedict Cumberbatch, who recently begged fans not to film him playing the lead in "Hamlet," has broken a record while being filmed playing the lead in "Hamlet." More than 225,000 viewers watched Cumberbatch tackle the melancholy prince of Denmark at movie theaters around the world on Thursday during a live—or in some cases delayed—telecast from London's Barbican Theatre. That's the largest global audience for a live broadcast of any title in National Theatre Live history. The broadcast played on over 1,400 screens and in 25 countries. Since its launch in 2009, National Theatre broadcasts from England have included "Frankenstein" with Cumberbatch and Jonny Lee Miller, Sam Mendes' "King Lear," and "A Streetcar Named Desire" with Gillian Anderson. After a performance in August, Cumberbatch told fans gathered outside that spotting filming while performing was "mortifying."

'Downton Abbey' final season set to begin in January

NEW YORK (AP)—The final season of the popular British drama "Downton Abbey" will begin on Jan. 3, leading up to a finale on the first weekend of March, PBS announced Monday.

The show has been both a creative and ratings triumph for the network. On the Sunday before its final episode, PBS will air a marathon of the season up to that point and a behind-the-scenes program on how the

show was made.

The network will also try to use "Downton Abbey" as a launching pad for "Mercy Street," a Civil War drama premiering Jan. 17 directly after an episode of the outgo-

ing hit.

PBS also has a new two-part Ken Burns documentary on Jackie Robinson that will premiere in April to coincide with the start of a new baseball season.

Blake Shelton sues In Touch Weekly over rehab story

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Blake Shelton sued the tabloid magazine In Touch Weekly on Monday over a cover story claiming heavy drinking by the country music star contributed to his divorce from Miranda Lambert and that he was headed to rehab.

Shelton's defamation lawsuit filed in Los Angeles County Superior Court seeks more than \$1 million in damages over the story that his lawyers say is false.

The lawsuit against In Touch

publisher, Bauer Publishing Co., contends the tabloid has repeatedly published false information about the singer and his breakup with Lambert.

"Blake Shelton has had enough," the lawsuit begins before refuting claims made in the article and laying out the Grammy-nominated singer's busy schedule. "Mr. Shelton is not in rehab and has no plans to go to rehab."

An email sent to publicists for

In Touch was not immediately returned.

The lawsuit points out that Shelton continues to work as a judge on NBC's "The Voice" and on an upcoming greatest hits album.

In Touch published the story in late September that alleged Shelton was drinking heavily and that his actions contributed to the end of his marriage to Lambert. It previously published a story claiming Shelton

had cheated on Lambert and that contributed to their divorce.

The rehab cover story also proclaimed that Shelton had hit "rock bottom."

"To be clear: Mr. Shelton has not hit rock bottom," the lawsuit states. It accuses In Touch of publishing the story without reaching out to the singer's lawyers or other representatives.

The lawsuit states Shelton, 39, has sought a retraction of the story but received no response.

Ex-wife of cheater seeks a way to cope with anger

DEAR ABBY: I work for a court, and while I was at work the bailiff informed me he had civil papers to serve on my husband. When I called my husband to tell him, he sounded scared that I knew about it. When I dug a little deeper, I found out they were child support papers from a woman he'd had an affair with. He has been wiring her money behind my back for two years.

Abby, I have been with this man for 12 years. I had suspected affairs before, but he always came up with convincing answers and fooled me into thinking it was nothing. I guess I'm naive—or him being a cop has taught him how to lie and cleverly manipulate.

I have two children, and of course I left him. I haven't told my son why I divorced his dad because I don't want him to have a bad opinion of him.

I need advice. I'm now struggling and barely making ends meet. My son is mad at me because I can't fix my relationship with his father. We are having a hard time, but my ex isn't. He's living it up while staying with relatives. He cancels visits with his son at the last minute to spend time with other women.

I try not to get angry, because no matter how I'm hurting I know I'm better off without him. How do I let the anger go? Romantically, I feel

I have moved on, but another part of me feels he should suffer too.

ANGRY IN THE SOUTH

DEAR ANGRY: Nobody likes to be played for a fool, and you wouldn't be human if you didn't have these feelings. However, resist the temptation to be vengeful. Your ex may suffer when your son is old enough to realize that he can't count on his dad to keep his word or be there for him. Bide your time. While you shouldn't poison the children against him, do let them draw their own conclusions.

DEAR ABBY: Ten years ago, while I was still in college, I dated and fell in love with a married man I'll call "Jon." The split was messy in the end, but since then we have had our closure and moved on with our lives—divorce for him, and marriage for me.

I recently learned that Jon may be taking a position in my small company (only nine people). I believe we can be cordial, but should I approach the subject with him, or pretend it never happened? Do I tell my husband (who knows about the affair) that Jon will be working with me, or keep quiet?

CONFLICTED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR CONFLICTED: Of course you tell your husband. If you don't and he finds out Jon will be working with you, he will assume that you had something to hide. As to bringing up the past with Jon once he shows up, if he doesn't broach the subject, I don't think you should. Keep the relationship strictly business, for both your sakes.

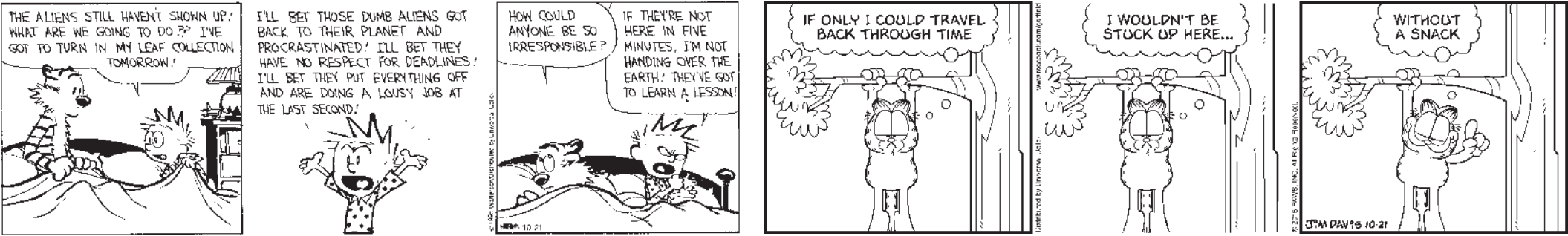
What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

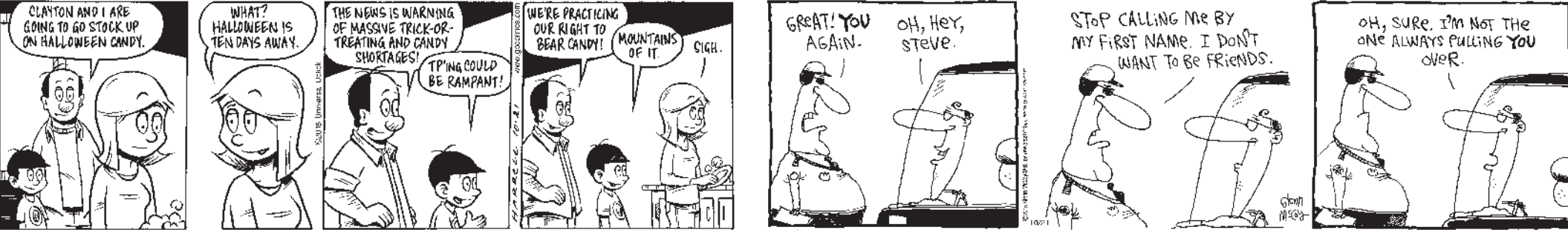
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Resistance unit

4 Low range

8 Terrible guy?

12 Pair with an air

13 Met melody

14 Mature

15 Freddy's street

16 Large ad space

18 Impudent

20 Heavy weight

21 Greek peak

24 London newspaper

28 Montana city

32 Bear lair

33 Yoko —

34 Frat party garb

36 Feminine principle

37 Garbage barge

39 Wallet

41 Red River capital

DOWN

43 — out (supplemented)

44 Eggs

46 Leaves at the library?

50 Kid's pop

55 "7 Faces of Dr. —"

56 Garfield's pal

57 Hindu princess

58 Doctrine

59 Enter

60 Related

61 Spell-down

1 Poetic tributes

2 Luau entertainment

3 Mid-May honorees

4 Watch Junior

5 "Entourage" character

6 Part of RSVP

7 Sodium chloride

8 Oddly funny

9 By way of

10 Spring mo.

11 Homer's neighbor

17 Automation, for short

19 Scale member

22 Uppity one

23 One majoring in farming

25 BLT enhancer

26 Satan's specialty

27 Transmit

28 "Poppycock!"

29 Bygone Peruvian

30 Crazy sort

31 Polio vaccine discoverer

35 Ignored the alarm

38 Fleecy

40 Rx watchdog

42 Wall climber

45 Taj Mahal city

47 Smooth-talking

48 Facility

49 A few

50 Cranberry territory

51 Altar affirmative

52 Roman

53 Acorn creator

54 Blackbird

Solution time: 23 mins.

T	W	A	S	A	S	E	A	A	R	M
W	A	R	M	C	H	E	M	R	H	O
A	R	T	C	H	O	K	E	T	E	L
O	M	A	H	A	H	E	E	F	A	H
W	I	R	Y	S	T	I	C	K	I	N
E	S	T	A	O	R	A	T	O	E	
S	C	H	E	D	U	L	E		F	I
J	R	A	L		B	E	S	E	T	
S	C	R	A	M	A	B	E	L		
U	R	A	R	T	I	L	I	F	E	V
M	O	A		N	O	O	K	A	L	O
C	W	N		T	Y	P	E		S	K

Yesterday's answer 10-21

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Matt Dallas, 33; Kim Kardashian, 35; Carrie Fisher, 59; Judge Judy Sheindlin, 73.

Happy Birthday: Shake things up at home and turn something you enjoy doing into a lucrative sideline business. Entertaining friends and introducing others to the skills and ideas you have to offer will pay off. A change in the way you view partnerships will cause some discord, but do your best not to give in to unwarranted demands and pressure. Your numbers are 5, 11, 16, 20, 27, 38, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Put your personal papers in order. It's time to tidy up loose ends and clear the way for new and exciting life changes. Job prospects look good. Reconnect with people you have enjoyed working with in the past. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Choose to excel. Don't let emotional situations stand between you and your ability to get things done. Concentrate on perfection and sharing your experience, knowledge and ideas with like-minded people. Romance is encouraged, along with personal improvements. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Pick and choose your friends wisely. Someone who is a bad influence will ruin your chances to advance. Don't limit what you can do because you are being impractical or putting too much time into things that brings little return. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Travel, creative courses or attending a trade show that sparks your imagination will help you make home improvements. Interacting

with people heading down a similar path will encourage you to finish what you start. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will learn a lot if you forge ahead with the changes you've been contemplating. Follow your heart, but don't neglect to consider what your intelligence suggests. Your intellect will help you achieve your dream in a practical fashion. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Listen to what's being said, but make changes based on what works best for you. Someone will put demands on your time if you aren't careful. Take care of your needs first, and offer assistance only if you have time left over. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Delve into the past and you will discover the information you need to satisfy your curiosity. Connecting with people you admire or miss will help you put your own life in perspective. You'll find a solution that will eliminate a challenge you face. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Gravitate toward unique people, places and pastimes. The encounters will help you incorporate interesting plans into both your personal and professional plans. Use your power of persuasion to help you get what you want. Romance is encouraged. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Improve your personal life and your home environment. The effort you make will help ease any stress you've been feeling. A problem will surface if you have neglected to take care of legal, financial or medical matters. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Listen to the advice offered, but make your own decision when it comes to handling investments, contracts or chronic health matters. Make a commitment to someone you want to spend more time with. Romance will make a lasting impression. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can wheel and deal. Put your intelligence to work and you will captivate your audience. An idea you have will interest someone you may want to form a partnership with in the future and will result in greater recognition. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take on a new project or volunteer your time. Interact with others and you will be able to put your skills to the test and discover new ways to gain professional ground. Romance will result in unusual rewards. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are intense, responsible and loyal. You are persistent and inventive. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

			2	9	6					
		1				8				
	5	7				3	9			
1										2
9										7
	7	2	3		1	9	5			
			5		7					
		3					5			
		6	9	1	8	4				

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	3	4	1	2	5	9	6	7
7	1	6	4	9	8	5	3	2
9	2	5	7	3	6	4	8	1
4	7	3	9	6	1	2	5	8
2	6	1	8	5	3	7	9	4
5	8	9	2	4	7	6	1	3
1	5	2	6	8	4	3	7	9
3	4	7	5	1	9	8	2	6
6	9	8	3	7	2	1	4	5

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

FRANK GIFFORD (1930-2015) Solution: 11 letters

E T E L H T A E E T S E U G D
F R A N C I S N M C O M L I F
A A R E E N I X A M M M R A H
N W A W C A S S I D Y T M N C
O E M Y W P I E E N S E S T A
N E N O O V N F A A T W Y S O
I O O R A J E R K S O D A B C
W A T K A N E A I R O T C I V
L S G W S T T F H C T N F L P
O N N E E H S T F P A S S P R
L O I V I N O S C I P M Y L O
A D L E I F S R E K A B R A B
M L L L T A C K L E Z A H Y O
A E E Y F O O T B A L L A H W
E W W K C A B G N I N N U R L

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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Back home, Blue Jays break out to beat Royals in Game 3



TORONTO
(AP)—Back in the homer dome with

their rowdy fans, Troy Tulowitzki, Josh Donaldson and the Toronto Blue Jays quickly got into the swing of the AL Championship Series.

Tulowitzki and Donaldson both connected in a six-run third inning Monday night, and the Blue Jays roughed up Johnny Cueto for an 11-8 victory over the Royals that cut Kansas City's series lead to 2-1.

"I feel like we've played better at home and I felt like the entire night we had great at-bats," Donaldson said. "Not just good at-bats, great at-bats."

Ryan Goins also homered and had a two-run single, one game after his misplayed pop fly set off Kansas City's winning rally Sunday.

The resilient Royals tried to come back this time, too. Kendrys Morales capped a four-run surge with a two-run homer in the ninth before Roberto Osuna closed it out.

"We're just going to keep fighting," Kansas City outfielder Alex Gordon said. "We've got a lot of competitors on this team and that's what you see."

Even with a big lead, Tulowitzki lost his cool. He was given a rare playoff ejection for arguing balls and strikes before the top of the eighth.

Tulowitzki, who struck out looking in the seventh, was restrained by teammates as he argued with plate umpire John Hirschbeck when the Blue Jays took the field. Toronto manager John Gibbons and bench coach DeMarlo Hale also came out to break it up.

Despite being out 15-11 by the pesky Royals, Toronto pounced on Kansas City pitching in the first ALCS game at Toronto since 1993. The Blue Jays scored their most runs ever at home in the postseason - after mustering just three in two



Toronto Blue Jays' Troy Tulowitzki rounds the bases on his three-run home run during the third inning in Game 3 of baseball's American League Championship Series against the Kansas City Royals on Monday, Oct. 19, 2015, in Toronto.

games at Kansas City.

"You could not tell in the clubhouse if we're down 0-2 or up 2-0," winning pitcher Marcus Stroman said. "What we have is extremely special. The confidence that everybody has with everybody is amazing."

Seemingly not distracted by the contentious federal elections being held in Canada on Monday, 49,751 fans serenaded Cueto with a sing-song "Cueto-Cueto!" chant from the game's first pitch and never quieted down.

The Royals took a quick lead when Alcides Escobar opened the game with a triple and scored on Ben Zobrist's grounder. But that was the only advantage Kansas City held in having its nine-game ALCS winning streak snapped. The

string dated to the 1985 series against Toronto.

Blue Jays center fielder Kevin Pillar quashed the early rally with a fantastic, over-the-shoulder catch that sent him crashing into the wall.

After an easy first, Cueto appeared flustered by the crowd. Eleven of his remaining 13 batters reached and at one point in the third inning he threw his hands up in frustration after gesturing for a new cycle of signs from catcher Salvador Perez.

Goins singled in two runs in the second after Tulowitzki singled with one out and Russell Martin was hit by a pitch that knocked off his left elbow guard. Goins pulled into second on the throw home and shouted and pumped his arms.

"There's no need to put any

extra pressure on yourself," Goins said when asked if he was looking for redemption. "Just come out and do what I've been doing all season - whatever I can do to help this team win is what I'm going to do."

David Price, the losing pitcher in Game 2, led the cheering from the top step of the dugout.

When Goins scored on Donaldson's hit, he was greeted first by the enthusiastic Stroman.

"He's been carrying that load around a little bit," Gibbons said of Goins. "But he stepped up, really got us on the board with that great at-bat, picking up those two runs, base hit to left and then, of course, the home run."

Nursing a sore shoulder that sidelined him in September, Tulowitzki entered in a 4-for-29

postseason slump. But he connected for the Blue Jays' first ALCS homer after Edwin Encarnacion singled and Chris Colabello walked to start the third.

"Battling with the shoulder at times, but trying to gut it out," Tulowitzki said.

Cueto was coming off a dominant, eight-inning performance in Game 5 of the ALDS, retiring his last 19 batters. But after giving up Pillar's RBI double in the third, he was done.

The dreadlocked Dominican gave up six hits and eight runs in two-plus innings. He walked four and hit a batter with a pitch.

As fans sang Cueto off the field, he smiled and tossed his gum near the Royals dugout.

"That's just part of my DNA.

That's what comes out, but there wasn't any laughing about it," he said through a translator.

Donaldson connected for a 9-2 lead two batters after Kris Medlen entered. Goins homered off Medlen in the fifth as Toronto matched its postseason best with three homers in a game. The Blue Jays also hit three against Texas in Game 4 of the ALDS.

Stroman gave up four runs and 11 hits in 6 1-3 innings. The 24-year-old returned from a torn knee ligament in March to go 4-0 down the stretch and get the win in Game 5 of the ALDS.

Blue Jays fans were confident enough with a 10-4 lead to sing "Happy Birthday" to Jose Bautista when he came to bat in the sixth. Bautista drove in a run in the eighth.

Tigers' Norris says he kept pitching with cancerous growth

DETROIT (AP)—Tigers pitcher Daniel Norris says baseball kept him sane after a jarring medical diagnosis.

The Detroit left-hander announced in a message on Twitter and Instagram on Monday that he kept playing last season after finding out he had a cancerous growth on his thyroid. The 22-year-old Norris said the growth was deemed malignant but he was told by a doctor that he could wait until the end of the season to have it removed.

"I was given the option to shut my year down & get it removed immediately," Norris posted. "However, seeing another doctor that determined I could wait until the end of the season reassured my gut feeling. Just keep playing."

Norris went 3-2 with a 3.75 ERA this year in 13 starts for Toronto and Detroit. He was



Toronto Blue Jays' Troy Tulowitzki rounds the bases on his three-run home run during the third inning in Game 3 of baseball's American League Championship Series against the Kansas City Royals on Monday, Oct. 19, 2015, in Toronto.

traded to the Tigers in late July as the most highly regarded prospect in the deal that sent David Price to the Blue Jays.

"We're big fans of Daniel

here," Blue Jays assistant general manager Tony LaCava said. "Short of trading him for David Price, I don't think we ever would have done something

like that. He's got a great future. It sounds like he's got good care and it seemed like he was confident that he was going to be fine, which is great."

Al Avila, who was promoted to replace Dave Dombrowski as Detroit's general manager shortly after the trade deadline, said in a text message that the Tigers knew about Norris' condition when they acquired him and expect him to recover in full.

"It's time to get this thing out," Norris said in his social media post. "So please keep me in your thoughts & prayers as I undergo surgery & come out 100% cancer free!"

Norris said he found out about the growth a few months ago, after he was optioned to Triple-A. He said it was alarming to hear the growth was malignant, but he kept playing.

"Baseball kept me sane," he said. "Regardless of the results on the field, I forgot about it when I was between the lines. ... I was just trying to get the heck out of AAA. ... I was revived with an opportunity, a blessing from God, with the Tigers."

Norris made eight starts down the stretch for the Tigers.

Blue Jays outfielder Dalton Pompey was Norris' teammate all the way through Toronto's minor league system, with both players making their major league debut in September, 2014. The pair broke camp with the Blue Jays this April but both were later demoted to Triple-A Buffalo.

"I knew that something was up because I remember him telling me that he went to the doctors for something in his throat," Pompey said before the Blue Jays hosted Kansas City in Game 3 of the American League Championship Series.

"I didn't think anything of it. He said not to worry about it and now, obviously, it's escalated into something else."

Several other Blue Jays, including manager John Gibbons and catcher Russell Martin, said they had no idea what Norris had been dealing with.

"He's a great person," Martin said. "He's one of my favorite young players that I've ever been around. He has his priorities and values in the right place."

Gibbons called Norris "a special kid" and wished him a speedy recovery.

"That kind of thing, it gets your attention," Gibbons said. "It kind of puts things in perspective. We're worried about winning a huge baseball game, no doubt about it. But here's a guy that you've had contact with that's fighting something a heck of a lot harder than this."

Murray, Carroll lead Eagles to 27-7 win over Giants



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—A tenacious defense bailed out Sam Bradford and made Eli Manning miserable.

DeMarco Murray ran for 109 yards and a touchdown, Nolan Carroll returned one of Manning's two interceptions for a score and the Philadelphia Eagles beat the New York Giants 27-7 Monday night.

The Eagles had three takeaways, sacked Manning three times and forced two intentional grounding penalties.

"All the credit goes to them," Bradford said of Philadelphia's defense. "It seemed like every time we needed a stop or a big play, they created a lot of turnovers tonight. That always gives us a lot of momentum and always gives us juice."

Bradford threw for 280 yards with a 32-yard TD pass to Riley Cooper, but had three interceptions to keep New York in the game. The Giants got zero points off the turnovers.

"We were stagnant," Giants coach Tom Coughlin said. "They did more with their opportunities than we did."

The Eagles (3-3) have won two straight to move from last place in the NFC East into a tie for first with the Giants (3-3). The teams meet again in Week 17.

Neither team looked sharp in front of a prime-time audience. They combined for seven turnovers and 21 penalties.

"That's bad football," Coughlin said.

The Giants gave the Eagles first

downs on a roughing-the-passer penalty and a running-into-the-kicker penalty to keep both of their TD drives going.

Wearing all-black uniforms for the third time in franchise history, the Eagles got off to another slow start.

Manning completed his first 10 passes, including a 13-yard TD pass to Odell Beckham Jr. for a 7-0 lead.

But things went downhill for Manning from there.

The Eagles took a 14-7 lead in the second quarter when Carroll jumped in front of a pass intended for Dwayne Harris and ran it back untouched for his first career TD.

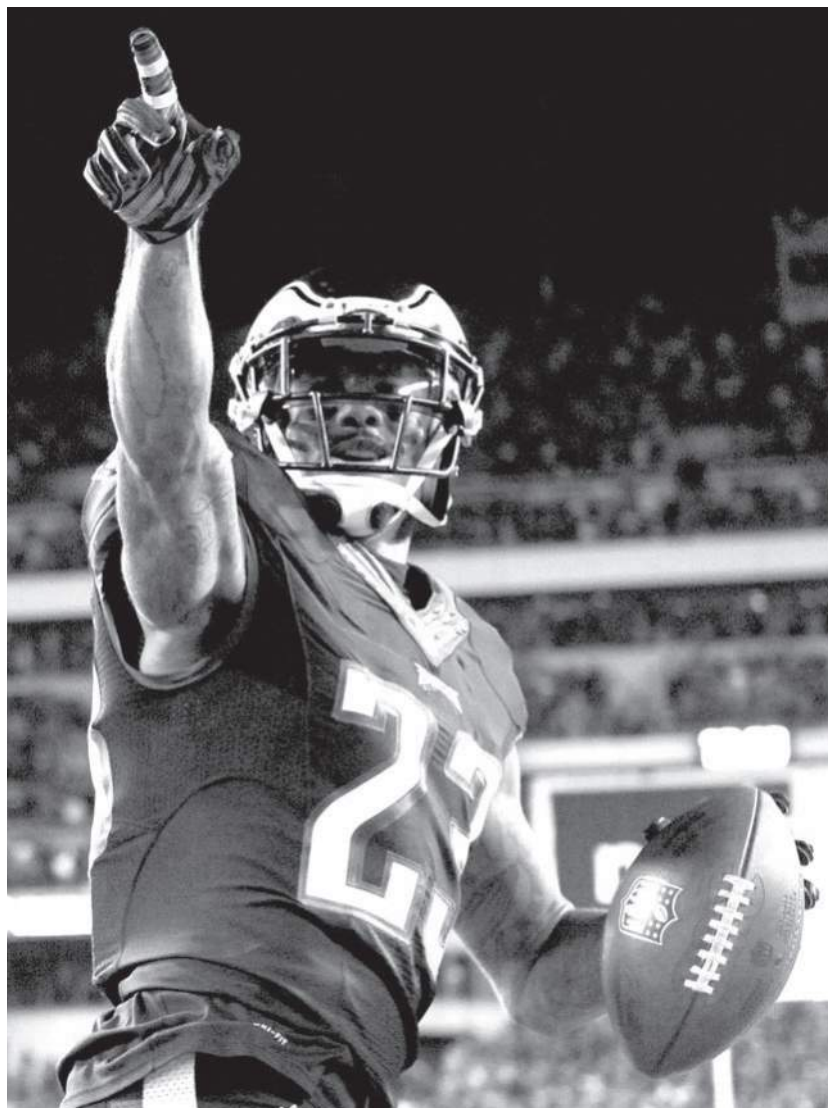
"Terrible read by me, bad decision to make that throw," Manning said. "I should have gone to my next guys in my progression."

After Nikita Whitlock ran into punter Donnie Jones to give Philadelphia a first down at its 28, Murray took over. He had two runs of 11 yards each and finished off the drive with a 12-yard TD run to give Philadelphia a 24-7 lead in the third quarter.

Murray had his best game since joining the Eagles after a record-breaking season in Dallas. The All-Pro led the NFL in rushing last year and broke Emmitt Smith's single-season club record, but has struggled in Philadelphia. He entered the game with 130 yards this season.

"We know we have a long way to go," Murray said.

The Eagles were 1-3 before a 39-17 win over the New Orleans Saints



Philadelphia Eagles cornerback Nolan Carroll reacts after scoring a touchdown on an interception off a pass from New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning during the first half of an NFL football game, Monday, Oct. 19, 2015, in Philadelphia.

at home last week. They'll travel to play unbeaten Carolina (5-0) next Sunday night.

The Giants had won three in a row. They'll host Dallas (2-3) next week.

Bradford had a pair of third-quarter interceptions on poor throws, including one that Landon Collins picked in the end zone.

But Philadelphia's defense bailed him out.

"We need to improve on offense," coach Chip Kelly said.

The Giants came out playing Kelly's style of football, running a no-huddle offense. They moved right down the field and Manning connected with Beckham across the middle for a score.

The Eagles went three-and-out on their first possession and the Giants were driving with a first down at Philadelphia's 23 when DeMeco Ryans stole the ball from Larry Donnell for an interception.

A roughing-the-passer penalty on Damontre Moore helped the Eagles avoid another three-and-out and Bradford hit Cooper on a deep pass to tie it at 7-7.

The teams traded turnovers midway through the second quarter. Malcolm Jenkins forced Rashad Jennings to fumble and Ryans recovered at the Eagles 38. But Jayron Hosley intercepted Bradford's deep pass and ran it back to the Giants 42.

Caleb Sturgis hit a 37-yard field goal to give the Eagles a 17-7 lead at halftime. He nailed one from 39 in the fourth quarter.

Colts' fake punt among NFL's dumbest plays

By **BARRY WILNER**
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

The Colts' attempt to fool the Patriots with a fake punt Sunday night only made Indianapolis look foolish.

It might not have been the dumbest call or execution of a play in NFL history, but it certainly ranks down there in the litany of failures.

And there are many to rival this one, in which Indy, trailing by six points in the third quarter, lined up nine players to the right, with only the snapper (wideout Griff Whalen) and the quarterback (safety Colt Anderson) on the left.

New England wasn't tricked a bit, and the Colts' plan was supposed to include taking a delay of game. Instead, Anderson took a premature snap and was at the bottom of a tidal wave of Patriots tacklers.

Game over, basically.

"The whole idea there was on fourth-and-3 or less, shift our alignment to where you either catch them misaligned, they try to sub some people in, catch them with 12 men on the field, and if you get a certain look, you can make a play," coach Chuck Pagano said. "Alignment-wise, we weren't lined up correctly, and then there was a communication problem on the snap, and I take responsibility for that."

Who gets the blame on some of the other classic Bozo plays



In this Oct. 18, 2015, file photo, Indianapolis Colts wide receiver Griff Whalen (17) watches as Colts free safety Colt Anderson (32) is tackled by New England Patriots running back James White (28) on a fake punt in the second half of an NFL football game in Indianapolis.

in NFL annals? Read on:

ABNER HAYNES—The star running back for the AFL's Dallas Texans in 1962 misunderstood coach Hank Stram's directions on the coin flip for overtime. He won and chose to kick off into a hefty wind. Fortunately for Haynes, the Texans (now the Kansas City Chiefs) held off the Oilers and won in double OT.

JIM MARSHALL—One of the most durable players in NFL history, the defensive end is

best known for going the wrong way with a fumble. The Vikings standout recovered a fumble by the 49ers' Billy Kilmer and, disoriented, returned it 66 yards to his own end zone. Safety, San Francisco.

GARO YEPREMIAN—Perhaps the most infamous play in a Super Bowl, Dolphins kicker Garo Yepremian had his attempt blocked by Washington in 1973. He picked up the ball, made a clumsy attempt to pass, and it flew directly to the Red-

skins' Mike Bass. He went 49 yards for a TD, but Miami held on to close out its perfect season.

JOE PISARCIK, JOHN MCVAY, BOB GIBSON—The "Miracle at the Meadowlands," when Giants QB Joe Pisarcik followed the orders of coach John McVay and offensive coordinator Bob Gibson to hand off to future Hall of Fame fullback Larry Csonka when kneeling would have clinched a victory over Philadelphia. Pisarcik's attempt never got to

Csonka, hit the turf and Eagles DB Herman Edwards picked up the ball and ran into the end zone for the winning points.

LEON LETT—Late in Dallas' 1993 Super Bowl rout of Buffalo, Cowboys DL Leon Lett picked up a fumble and headed down the right sideline undisturbed. As he approached the goal line, he began showboating, sticking the ball out front. Bills receiver Don Beebe caught him and knocked the ball out of Lett's hands for a touchdown.

LEON LETT (again)—This time, Miami was trying a field goal in the snow in Dallas on Thanksgiving Day—seriously. The kick was blocked and sat on the white stuff untouched. Until Lett, despite claiming he knew the rules that it was a dead ball if no one touched it, tried to pounce on the pigskin. It slid away, the Dolphins recovered and kicked the winning field goal. Lett called it "brain freeze."

DAN ORLOVSKY—In the midst of the NFL's only 0-16 season, the Lions QB obliviously stepped out of the back of the end zone while scrambling, awarding the Vikings a safety.

MARK SANCHEZ—New England could give thanks to Jets QB Mark Sanchez on Thanksgiving night when his running back missed a hand-off, so Sanchez took off and smacked into the butt of guard Brandon Moore. Out came the ball, scooped up by Patriots DB Steve Gregory, who trotted into the end zone for a touchdown.

WAYNE RUDD—Cleveland linebacker Dwayne Rudd blew his top and cost the Browns a win. Rudd was penalized for ripping off his helmet and flinging it in celebration during the final seconds against Kansas City. That extended the opening game in 2002, and the Chiefs won.

JIM SCHWARTZ—What is it about Thanksgiving? Jim Schwartz threw his red flag on a play that already would be reviewed, Justin Forsett's 81-yard TD run for Houston. But because the Lions coach challenged—considered a delay of the next snap by league rules—the replay official couldn't initiate a review. What should have been an 8-yard rush because Forsett was down by conduct turned into a touchdown. Detroit lost in overtime.

DARIUS REYNAUD—The Titans opened the 2013 season at Pittsburgh in fine fashion. Darius Reynaud botched handling the opening kickoff outside the end zone, and stepped back over the goal line to down the ball. Two points for the Steelers.

PETE CARROLL, DARELL BEVELL—A "Beast" of a botched play. With perhaps the best short-yardage back in football, Marshawn Lynch, on the field, the Seahawks threw on second down from the Patriots 1. The ball was intercepted to clinch New England's victory.

In the Super Bowl.

Did we say dumb?

With Cubs advancing, spotlight shines on Wrigley

CHICAGO (AP)—Will Byington sat at the counter in the Starbucks across Addison Street from Wrigley Field editing pictures on a laptop. A freelance photographer, his work lines the walls. One of his favorite subjects? Of course, it's the ballpark. "I joke that this Starbucks is my local art gallery," Byington said.

If anyone understands the quirky nature of the 101-year-old ballpark and the surrounding neighborhood, he sure does. After all, he lives one long home run from the batter's box. The apartment building he has lived in the past 10 years lies just beyond the right-field foul pole, and the front door is 461 feet from home plate. Or so it says on his lease.

Where else but in Wrigleyville would a lease say that? It's just another characteristic that sets the fabled stadium apart, along with the famed marquee, the manual scoreboard, the ivy-covered brick outfield walls and the ballhawks in the surrounding streets chasing home runs.

With Joe Maddon's Cubs advancing in the playoffs for the first time in 12 years and igniting hope that—at long last—a World Series title is in reach, the Friendly Confines are getting a rare moment on a big stage. The NL Championship Series shifts to Chicago for Game 3 after the Mets grabbed the first two in New York over the weekend.

When they take the field Tuesday, the spotlight will be shining on two teams with young stars along with one very old ballpark. The Cubs had never clinched



New York Mets starting pitcher Jacob deGrom runs Monday, Oct. 19, 2015, during a team workout in preparation for Tuesday's Game 3 in baseball's National League Championship Series against the Chicago Cubs in Chicago.

a playoff series at Wrigley Field until they knocked off St. Louis in the division series, and when Kyle Hendricks unleashes the first pitch, it will be the latest they have played a game in the ballpark. They lost at home to Philadelphia on Oct. 23, 1910, giving the Athletics the World Series in five games. But back then, they played at the old West Side Park. And they were a mere two years removed from winning the World Series.

Wrigley Field did not open until 1914 and the Cubs did not start playing there until 1916. Over the years, it has hosted ev-

erything from boxing to soccer to pro wrestling to the circus to the rodeo and even ski jumping. It's a ballpark that while viewed as a throwback today has in fact played a big role in changing the way fans view sports. It was the first to let them keep foul balls. It was the first with organ music. And it was the first to be cleaned up in an effort to attract women and children.

The manual scoreboard and ivy were added in 1937. Lights? Not until 1988, after every other ballpark got them. Now, the ballpark is in the early stages of an overhaul

designed to bring it into the 21st Century, one that added expanded bleachers this year along with large videoboards in left and right field. The one in right figures to get some air time Tuesday, considering the ball that Kyle Schwarber launched for a home run to help knock out St. Louis in the division series is encased where it settled on top.

Add that to the list of odd moments in a ballpark full of them. Where else have players been known to hide balls in the ivy just in case they need to find one quickly to throw out a runner? It's a place where a Bear was

allowed on the field for the first National League game in 1916. A billy goat, however, got ejected during the 1945 World Series along with its angry owner, who placed a curse on the Cubs. And they haven't won the pennant since then.

But when Maddon was asked about the quirks of Wrigley Field, he didn't mention the ivy or the scoreboard or any of those unusual moments. To him, it's about looking out from the third-base dugout at the fans way back in the upper deck in right. "Whoever sits in that last seat up in that corner, I'm impressed

FRUIT

From Page 28

an art in the 'routines' as they are carefully choreography to entertain audiences," stated in the federation's website. Fruit said that at the beginning of the competition, participants were given 60 seconds each to perform tricks for three judges to determine the players' rankings and pairings. Three-time Australian champion and F3 World Tour veteran Chris Beavon led the panel of judges and was joined by fellow com-

petitor and Melbourne's Tommy So and Singapore freestyler Axel Rodriguez. With Fruit getting the No. 7 rankings, he was pitted against the 10th-ranked Anthony Sebastelis from New South Wales and won his first head-to-head match to march into the quarterfinals. In the Round of 8, Fruit was paired against another NSW bet in the person of second-seeded Dylan Stipack, who got a bye in the first round and defeated the CNMI player to make it to the Final Four. Stipack was joined in the semifinals by Vic-

toria's Jordan Morrison and Karl Victoria, and eventual champion Olly Bowman of New Zealand. The Kiwi beat Morrison in the finals for his third straight Oceania title, while Stipack settled for the third-place honors. With Fruit making it to the quarterfinals and notching the Newbie Award, he earned trickster apparel and a video shoot with Beavon. "It was fun," said Fruit, who left Australia last night and will be staying in South Korea for six days before returning to Saipan.

SONICS

From Page 28

minutes of the penultimate canto. Lerio Pagarao brought KB Market back in the game after scoring the team's last 8 points in that quarter. Preston Basa registered the 3 other points in KB Market's 11-2 surge. Sensing trouble, Tudela called a timeout and when the game resumed, the Sonics responded with a 6-0 windup off Eric Dela Rosa's two layups and Chico Bondoc's short jumper to regain a safe distance

against KB Market, entering the fourth period. Jaymark De Guzman then opened the payoff canto with back-to-back baskets to widen the gap and the Sonics were never threatened from thereon, as the closest that KB Market could get was within 7 points, 71-78, after Basa nailed a triple, down to the final 1:35 in the game. KB Market fell short in its comeback bid, as it failed to find the right combination on the floor in the fourth quarter. Players went in and out of the

court often and they could not find their rhythm. KB Market also had too many one-on-one plays, while the Sonics showcased unselfish basketball in the majority of the match. With the Sonics' balance offense, four of their players broke into double figures and three more scored at least two baskets each. De Guzman had a game-high 21 points, while Gerald Flores added 17 and Melvin Cadiang and Bondoc contributed 12 and 11, respectively. Pagarao and Matt Duenas

CNMI

From Page 28

and the Saipan Marathon are some of the off-island sports events that attract international athletes. Saipan also hosted the 2006 Micronesian Games. The Irish national football team trained on Saipan in preparation for the 2002 World Cup that was co-hosted by Korea and Japan. Korean Baseball League squad the LG Twins also trained on Saipan during the winter season in Seoul. The said events increase hotel

occupancy and generate revenues for the CNMI government. Rogolifo, who is also the Saipan Baseball League coordinator, added this could be the same case in the coming years especially with the 2021 Pacific Mini Games. "The Pacific Mini Games is just like the Micro Games but on a bigger scale. It will be Saipan's first time to host the event so we want to put on a best show that would place us on the international map," Rogolifo said. "It will not only the athletes

Joshua Melendez had another 20-plus output in the victory, tallying 24. He had 21 in GMJ/IKKI's 71-70 win against Pacman in their opening game. With GMJ/IKKI's 2-0 record, it now holds the solo lead in the West Group of the open division. **First Game** **GMJ/IKKI 97** – Melendez 28, Ferrer 11, Cortez 10, Barrios 9, Oyola 8, T. Montes 6, Camacho 6, Villanueva 6, Mangali 6, Villacrusis 3, Saplan 2, Dizon 2. **Armatech 48** – Moreno 14, Asuhan 13, Tolosa 8, Diesta 6,

every night because the view cannot be the best," he said. "The overhang has got to get in the way. There's got to be all these obstacles, but you still want to be there. So that's just a part of the allure of this ballpark."



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	5	0	0	1.000	183	103
N.Y. Jets	4	1	0	.800	129	75
Buffalo	3	3	0	.500	145	139
Miami	2	3	0	.400	103	111

South

Indianapolis	3	3	0	.500	126	147
Houston	2	4	0	.333	128	155
Tennessee	1	4	0	.200	112	129
Jacksonville	1	5	0	.167	113	176

North

Cincinnati	6	0	0	1.000	182	122
Pittsburgh	4	2	0	.667	145	108
Cleveland	2	4	0	.333	141	158
Baltimore	1	5	0	.167	143	162

West

Denver	6	0	0	1.000	139	102
Oakland	2	3	0	.400	107	124
San Diego	2	4	0	.333	136	161
Kansas City	1	5	0	.167	127	159

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Philadelphia	3	3	0	.500	144	110
N.Y. Giants	3	3	0	.500	139	136
Dallas	2	3	0	.400	101	131
Washington	2	4	0	.333	117	138

South

Carolina	5	0	0	1.000	135	94
Atlanta	5	1	0	.833	183	143
Tampa Bay	2	3	0	.400	110	148
New Orleans	2	4	0	.333	134	164

North

Green Bay	6	0	0	1.000	164	101
Minnesota	3	2	0	.600	96	83
Chicago	2	4	0	.333	120	179
Detroit	1	5	0	.167	120	172

West

Arizona	4	2	0	.667	203	115
St. Louis	2	3	0	.400	84	113
Seattle	2	4	0	.333	134	125
San Francisco	2	4	0	.333	100	160

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

from the different member nations of the Pacific Games Council who would come here but also their coaches, trainers, team officials, their families, and members of other media outfits." More than 1,000 delegates from the Pacific are expected to arrive for the Mini Games. Athletics, badminton, baseball, canoe, golf, sailing, swimming, tennis, triathlon, volleyball (beach and indoor), weightlifting, and wrestling are the 12 proposed sports to be played in the 2021 Games.

Canedo 3, Malasarte 2, Crisostomo 2. **Scoring by quarters:** 31-7, 48-21, 75-35, 97-48. **Second Game** **Sonics 84** – De Guzman 21, Flores 17, Cadiang 12, Bondoc 11, Dela Rosa 8, Tekopua 6, Fidelino 4, Sto. Domingo 3, Hernandez 2. **KB Market 71** – Pagarao 20, Duenas 16, Galarce 9, Basa 9, I. Devero 7, Aquino 5, Santos 2, C. Devero 2, Mateo 2. **Scoring by quarters:** 22-12, 39-34, 58-49, 84-71.

Dee Clayton Classic returns Saturday

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

The Mariana Islands Bodybuilding and Physique Dee Clayton Classic returns on Saturday, Oct. 24, at 6:30pm and will be held at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret.

A pre-judging is scheduled at 7:30am also at the same venue for this year's edition of the annual bodybuilding competition.

Organizer Dee Clayton said that there are already between 18 and 20 participants who registered to join the event.

"I still haven't finalized the list. I have to check again but there are already 18-20 who signed up," said Clayton, who is the Commonwealth Bodybuilding Federation vice president.

Clayton added that most of the competitors who signed up are in the same group that joined last year's event.

Derek Cutting and Saipan World Resort gym instructor Alvin Rebong are among those who confirmed of joining the event.

Junior and open physique



Alvin Rebong shows off his winning physique in the Marianas Muscle Bodybuilding Competition last March. Rebong will be one of the competitors in the Mariana Islands Bodybuilding and Physique Dee Clayton Classic on Saturday at the Pacific Island Club's Charley's Cabaret.

JON PEREZ

and figure and bodybuilding contested again for this edition. Last year, Gold's Gym per-

sonal trainer Aaron Tomokane topped the figure and bodybuilding categories. He was the overall winner in the physique category in 2013.

Tomokane ruled the welterweight division then bested lightweight and bantamweight division champions Tristan Ecalnea and Jun Ming, respec-

tively, to clinch the overall crown.

Jun Riodique finished second to Tomokane in the welterweight division, while Neil Ayson was the runner-up to Ecalnea in the lightweight class.

Gino Celis, George Pangelinan, and Nathaniel Cruz ended up as the Top 3 finishers in the 15 to 17 junior physique division, while Vince Aldan topped the open and overall physique categories besting Gerald Galang, Donovan Mendiola, Alberto Roberto, and John Nekaifes, who finished second, third, fourth, and fifth, respectively.

Ray Rueda, Nomar Arcangel, Ben Tobin, and 49-year-old Roland Vicencio were the Top 4 in the masters division. Chom Star Gordon topped the women's bikini and physique class against Stephanie Yagi and last year's Gold's Gym Biggest Loser winner Mona Indalencio Corpuz.

The event was originally scheduled last September but was pushed back due to Typhoon Soudelor.

Those who are interested to join Saturday's event have until Friday to sign up. For more information, call or text Clayton at 285-6112.

Batallones is FilTaga October Ace

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

Rene Batallones must be thankful that William Retardo and Ruben Avendano had already clinched a berth in the FilTaga Ace of the Year.

Batallones survived Sunday's harsh and windy conditions at Marianas Country Club to secure the FilTaga October Ace of the Month and the berth that goes with it for the club's yearend tournament.

He actually finished third behind Retardo and Avendano, who ended up tied on top after shooting identical 74s, but they already won the June and July monthly tournaments.

This gave Batallones, who was a shot back with a 75, the chance to seal the October Ace. He fired a 40 at the front nine and closed out with a 42 at the back for an 82 net and with his seven handicap gave him that 75.

Retardo started off hot with a 36 but slowed down for a 42 in the last nine holes giving him a 78. He's a four handicapper for a gross score of 74.

Avendano, on the other hand, ended up with a 95 gross after shooting rounds of 51 and 44. He has a 21 handicap to tie Retardo on top.

Larry Pascual and Greg Castro complete the Top 5 after placing from fourth to fifth

spots with 77s.

Pascual had an 86 net (44 and 42) and with a handicap of 10 earned him that 76, while Castro, a 13 handicapper, shot an 89 net following rounds of 47 and 42.

Adony Matutino, Norman Tenorio, FilTaga September Ace of the Month Nestor Siruelo, and Eric Mandell all had 77s, while Palik Thompson shot a 78 to complete the Top 10.

Tony Cabrera (79), Ernie Lopez (81), and Raffy Piamonte (82) also competed last Sunday. Paul Bea also played but did not finish.

Batallones now joins Vic Roman and Randy Tudela (A and B, January); Jhun Ortiz and Piamonte (A and B, February); Lopez (March); Bea (April); Pascual and Dandito Breboneria (A and B, May); Retardo (June); Cataluna and Avendano (A and B, July); Greg Castro (August); and Siruelo (September) in the FilTaga Ace of the Year.

FilTaga's yearend tournament will either be held in late December or early January 2016.

JON PEREZ

William Retardo prepares to shoot a birdie putt on hole No. 13 in last Sunday's FilTaga October Ace of the Month at the Marianas Country Club. Retardo and Ruben Avendano ended up tied but Rene Batallones clinched the October Ace after they had already topped the June and July monthly tournaments, respectively.



NMIFA distributes soccer balls to football clubs



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Representatives of various football clubs pose with the soccer balls Northern Mariana Islands Football Association donated late last month.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association turned over soccer balls to the various clubs participating in the 2015 NMIFA Youth Fall League late last month.

Ross Zapanta, NMIFA general secretary, said each club received 15 soccer balls—10 of them are size 5 balls and 4 are size 4. The clubs have the discretion which of their age group teams will use the donated balls. MP United Football Club, Paire, Tan Holdings, Kanoa, Shirley's, and Matansa have squads in the co-ed U6, U8, and U10, and

U12A and B divisions and in girls and boys U15 divisions. In the U18 division, only MP United, Paire, Matansa, and Tan Holdings have fielded teams.

Team managers or each club's representatives received the donated balls. MP United's Seung Joon Lee, Kyoung Min Song, and Alex Park were present at the managers meeting last Sept. 30, while other attendees were Kanoa's Cristy Villafior, Tan Holdings' Lady Vir Canape and Roxe Lazaro, Matansa's Ho Jin Woo, Shirley's Puy Macario, and Paire's Derek Chambers.

Meanwhile, Zapanta said action in the fall league will resume this weekend after Week 2 matches were suspended due to Tropical Storm Champi.

There will be three games in the girls U15 division at the Hopwood Junior High School Field, which will also host two U12A matches and one boys U15 game. The two other boys U15 tiffs will be held in the Oleai Sports Complex Field along with the pair of boys U18 matches. Games in the non-competitive and four other age groups will also resume at the various school fields. *(Roselyn B. Monroyo)*





Back home, Blue Jays break out to beat Royals 11-8 in Game 3

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Dee Clayton Classic returns Saturday

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

Fruit takes Best Newbie award

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI U18 and Men's National Team member Joel Fruit debuted in the Oceania Freestyle Football Championships 2015 with a bang, winning the Best Newbie award in the annual competition held in Melbourne, Australia last Sunday.

"I actually won the Best Newbie award because I ranked the highest out of all the freestylers competing for the first time," Fruit said in a message sent to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Fruit was ranked seventh

out of the 14 competitors and bested fellow newcomers from Sydney, Coffs Harbour, and rural Victoria, according to the event's website. He was also the lone participant from the Pacific and the one who traveled the



farthest to compete in the F3 tournament for the first time. The 18-year-old player left a mark in the Oceania Freestyle Football Federation-sanctioned tournament held at the Queensbridge Square despite being new to the sport, which he just started practicing last year.

"I learned about the tournament from Facebook so I started doing freestyle football sometime in August last year," he said.

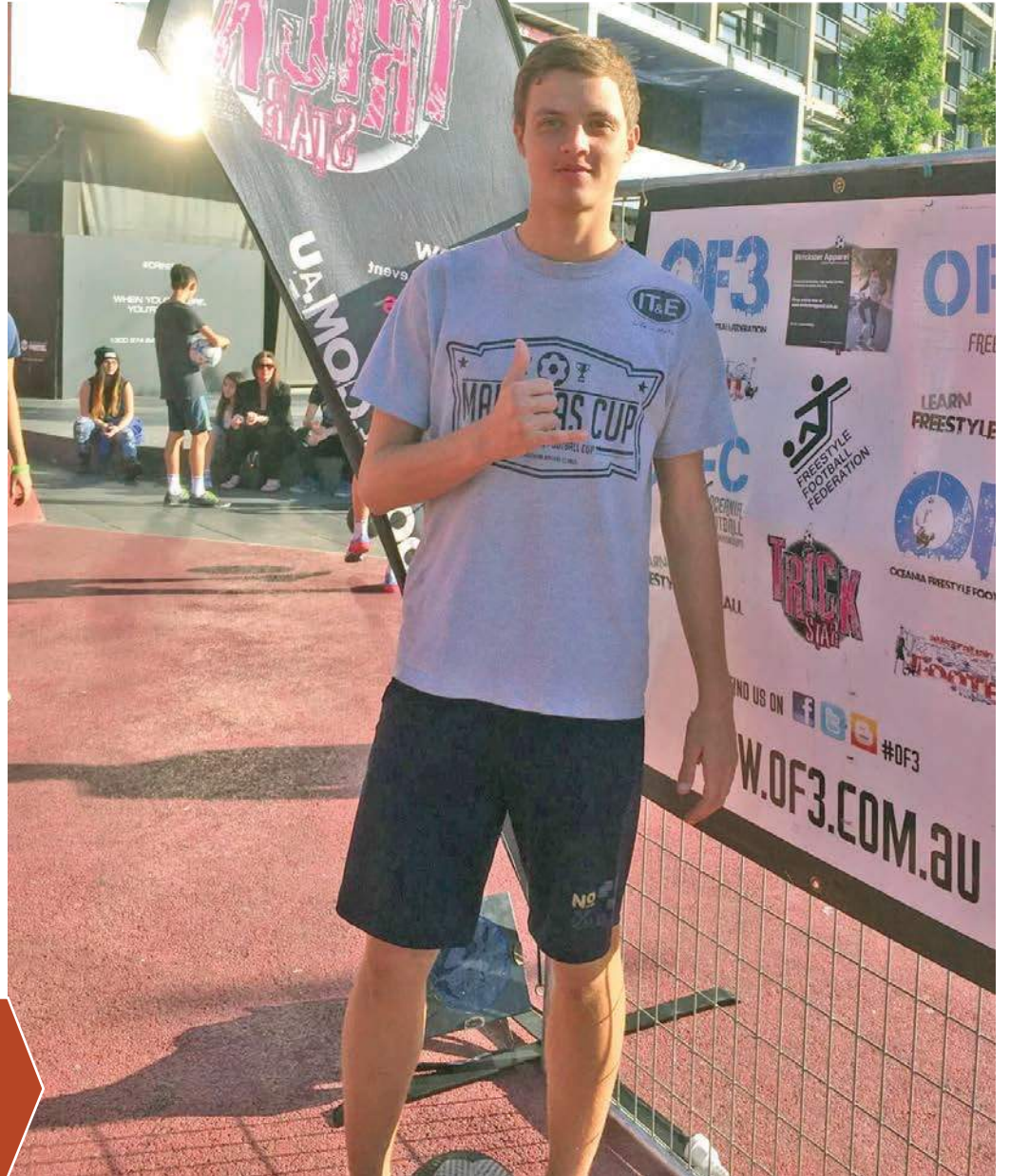
According to the OFFF website, freestyle football is the art of creatively performing tricks with a football.

"This visually spectacular new sport is generally (but not always) practiced to music, either solo, in a group or as part of a competition, choreographed live show or street performance. It is a 'SpArt.' It is a sport with competitors battling each other head to head and

See FRUIT on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Joel Fruit poses for a photo before competing in the Oceania Freestyle Football Championships 2015 in Melbourne, Australia last Sunday.



Sonics get second straight win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The Sonics weathered a third-quarter storm to top KB

Market, 84-71, during their open division match in the 2015 San Antonio Community Action Network Basketball League last Monday at the San Antonio court.

The Sonics squandered a

double-digit lead in the third quarter, but recovered in the closing minutes of that period and then played no let up in the fourth canto to bag their second consecutive win in three games.

Ahead by 12, 50-38, midway in the third frame, the Jesse Tudela-coached Sonics saw their lead trimmed to 3, 52-49, going into the final two

See SONICS on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Sonics' Erick Dela Rosa, middle, stretches for a layup against KB Market's Ryan Manglona, left, and the late help defense of Christian Devero, right, during the fourth quarter of their game in the open division of the San Antonio caging last Monday at the San Antonio court.

CNMI to benefit from sports tourism

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Sports Association executive director Tony Rogolifoi reiterated that the CNMI government would benefit if it further promotes sports tourism to attract off-island athletes and teams.

That's why, Rogolifoi added, Gov. Eloy S. Inos' administration should also help finance the repairs and other improvements needed for Saipan's sports facilities.

Rogolifoi renewed his call about the value of sports tourism as he also hopes the government would help NMSA in renovating the facilities damaged by several typhoons that hit the island.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will give financial assistance to help augment the cost of repairs. FEMA had already inspected the Oleai Sports Complex, which will be

the hub of activities when Saipan hosts for the first time the 2021 Pacific Mini Games.

"It would benefit us all. That's why we're



hoping through FEMA's assistance the repairs will be done quickly. If ever the government and legislature could also pitch in since we

need all the help that we could get," said Rogolifoi.

The Tagaman and XTERRA Saipan Championship triathlons

See CNMI on Page 26

ROSELYN MONROYO

The Northern Marianas Sports Association is hoping to get additional funds to help them in renovating and improving the facilities at the Oleai Sports Complex.

